

South Plains College
Math 1324.603 Syllabus
Mathematics for Business, Economics, Life and Social Sciences
Mondays & Wednesdays 5:20pm – 6:55pm in B031
Spring 2026

Instructor: Mrs. Morgan Groves
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Office: B017
Office Phone: 806-716-2735

Office Hours: Mon/Wed	1pm – 2pm
Tues/Thurs	1pm – 3pm
Fri	9am – 11am
(or by appointment)	

Course Structure

- Live in-person lectures with video support online
 - Daily lectures will be done in class with the notes outline provided on Blackboard.
 - Students are to print the notes **before** coming to class.
 - Assessments, such as quizzes and exams, will all be done in class.
 - All students are expected to be physically in class each day.

Textbook

- No book for this section.

Course Requirements/Materials

- Attend all classes with notes and homework printed in advance.
- All graded assessments assigned in class are expected to be completed in the allotted class time, unless otherwise instructed by the professor.
- Reliable internet access
- Printer (for notes and homework), but notes can be done electronically (tablet/iPad) as long as they are written by hand
- Solid work ethic and character.

Grading Policy:

Assignments	20%
Exams (4)	60%
Final Exam	20%

Grading Scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60	F

Students who want this course credit to transfer to a business program at a 4-year institute must make a C or higher.

****Note: Students must justify answers or show work on all problems to receive full credit.*

Class Notes

- Found on Blackboard.
- Bring all notes to class each day (2-3 inch binder recommended)
- Should be completed by each student (hand-written) in class during the daily lectures.

Homework

- Written assignments
- Not graded nor submitted, but the only way to succeed in this course is to do every homework problem on every assignment.
- All work should be shown on your own paper.

- Problems should be in proper order on paper.
- Must use pencil.
- Must be done by hand (no typing).
- Show all work!!
- Must be your own work!
- Answers found on Blackboard.
- Using PhotoMath (or similar) is strictly prohibited and will result in academic dishonesty reports being submitted to your permanent record.
- Using ChatGPT (or similar) on any assignment in this class is strictly prohibited.

Assignments

- Homework quizzes and labs can occur any class of the term.
- Students may use their completed homework on the quizzes. This homework must be handwritten and their own work. No digital homework will be allowed to be used on the quizzes. Homework must be on physical paper to use on the quizzes.
- Quizzes must be completed in the allotted time in class.
- No make-up quizzes are available.
 - If you miss class on a quiz day, then you miss the quiz and will get a 0.
- Up to 3 Assignments grades may be dropped at the end of the term.

Tests

- 4 midterm exams and 2 final exams
- A 3"x5" handwritten notecard can be used on midterm exams. Double-sided is okay.
- Students must complete exams in the allotted class time
- No exam grades will be dropped.
- It is in your best interest to save ALL graded documents until your final grade is assigned at the end of the term.
- Exams may be comprehensive.
- No make-up exams will be given.
 - In the event you miss a test, your final exam grade can replace up to one missed test grade.
- Test corrections are for your own benefit and will not be graded.

Final Exam

- Comprehensive
- Any student who does not take the final exam will fail the class regardless of the student's average.
- **No make-up final exams will be offered.**
- The final exam will be held on **Monday, May 5th from 5pm to 7pm.**

Late work

- Definition: work that was assigned but not turned in on time.
 - Ex: notes were to be completed using the lecture videos and uploaded to Gradescope, but student did not upload the notes by the due date.
- Late work is not accepted.
- If you do not turn in an assignment on time, you will receive a zero.

Make-up

- Definition: work that is done by students after the class has already completed the assignment.
 - Ex: Student misses a quiz in class because they were late or absent from class.
- Make-up work is given at the discretion of the instructor.

- In the event the instructor gives permission for a student to take a make-up assignment, that assignment must be completed before the next class day or before the grades are posted for that assignment, whichever comes first.
- NO make-up quizzes or tests are given without prior notification AND proper documentation.
- If you are absent from class on an exam day, have given prior notification and proper documentation of your absence, you MUST plan to take the exam BEFORE the next class period or the end of the week, whichever occurs first.
- If proper documentation and/or prior notification was not provided for your absence, and/or if you have not planned (prior to the missed class) with the professor to take the missed assignment, then you will receive a 0 for that assignment.
- Any make-up assignments that are permitted by the professor must be done within 24 hours of the missed assignment.

Attendance Policy

- No more than 6 classes can be missed.
 - Students may be administratively dropped from the class for missing over 6 classes for any reason.
- Students must not miss too many assignments! Missing more than 20% of the assignments in the term can result in an administrative drop from the course.
- Unless given specific permission, students are expected to be in the classroom and on time for class each class day.
- There are no excused absences, even with a doctor's note.
- Tardy
 - More than 10 minutes late
 - Leaving early
- Any student who arrives more than 45 minutes late or leaves more than 45 minutes early without instructor permission will be counted absent that day.
- Any student who falls asleep during class or who leaves class for an extended period of time, as determined by the instructor, will be counted "tardy" that day.
- **Every 3 tardies count as 1 absence.**
- Transportation issues? Call an Uber, get a bus pass (Route 5 drops off just one block from the Downtown Center campus – Broadway and Ave Q – and starts at 7:50am and runs until 8:45pm), call a taxi (West Texas Cab Company (806) 559-9900), or ask a friend for a ride.

Initial Assessment

- An assessment of your pre-algebra and beginning algebra skills will be given on the first day of class.
- If you do not pass this assessment with 75% or higher, it is strongly encouraged that you drop this class and take enroll in the Business Math Corequisite courses (Math 0324 and Math 1324) to get the developmental knowledge required to be successful in this course.
- The skills presented on this assessment are required knowledge before starting this course.

In the event of "life" preventing you from attending class:

1. Email the professor ASAP to inform her of your situation. Provide documentation, if applicable.
2. Plan to attend class virtually via Blackboard Collaborate (permission required).
 - This will count for your attendance that day.
3. If you are absent or a virtual student on a quiz/test day, you forfeit the opportunity to take the quiz/test that day.
4. If students are not able to attend class virtually and/or are not granted permission to be a virtual student that day, then that missed class will count as an absence regardless of the reason.
5. Students are expected to make every effort to attend class each day.

Gradescope

- All graded assignments will be posted on Gradescope except for the final exam.
- View all graded work along with comments on graded work.
- This is NOT your gradebook. Your gradebook is in Blackboard.
- Download the Gradescope app onto your smart phone.
 - Log-in with your SPC credentials, exactly like you log into Blackboard.

Academic Integrity

- Any student involved in cheating will receive a zero on the assignment(s) and will be informed of why he/she received a zero.
- Student may be administratively dropped from the class and will receive an X or F.

Calculators

- This course is taught under the assumption that each student has the use of a graphing calculator.
- I recommend a TI 83 or 84 series calculator.
- TI-Nspires and Casios are NOT recommended unless you are an expert at using them, as the instructor will be of little help.

Class Rules:

- Be on time and ready to learn.
- Use only pencil for all assignments.
- Have the notes printed **prior** to coming to class.
- Students are not permitted to use electronic devices, other than a calculator or tablet for taking notes, in class. **Put the cell phones away!! Close the laptops unless they are being used to take notes.**
- During testing, all cell phones should be placed on SILENT or turned off, and all smart watches need to be removed and placed on the floor face-down to the left of your seat.
- Any student who leaves the classroom for any reason (bathroom, phone call, etc.) during an exam will not be allowed to continue the exam upon their return. Once you leave the classroom during an exam, you are done.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Student Code of Conduct.

South Plains College
Common Course Syllabus: MATH 1324
Revised July 2023

Department: Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science

Discipline: Mathematics

Course Number: MATH 1324

Course Title: Mathematics for Business and Social Sciences

Available Formats: conventional, hybrid, and internet

Campuses: Levelland, Downtown Center, and Dual Credit

Course Description: The application of common algebraic functions, including polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational, to problems in business, economics, and the social sciences are addressed. The applications include mathematics of finance, including simple and compound interest and annuities; systems of linear equations; matrices; linear programming; and probability, including expected value.

Prerequisite: Minimum score of 350 on the TSIA1, minimum score of 950 on the TSIA2, a diagnostic score of 6 on the TSIA2, TSI-exempt status, a successful completion with a grade of 'C' or better in MATH 0320, or successful completion of NCBM-0114.

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 1

Supplies: Please see the instructor's course information sheet for specific supplies.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Mathematics Foundational Component Area (020)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- Communications skills—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- Critical thinking skills—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Empirical and quantitative competency skills—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course and receiving a passing grade, the student will be able to:

1. Apply elementary functions, including linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, logarithmic, and exponential functions to solving real-world problems.
2. Solve mathematics of finance problems, including the computation of interest, annuities, and amortization of loans.
3. Apply basic matrix operations, including linear programming methods, to solve application problems.

4. Demonstrate fundamental probability techniques and application of those techniques, including expected value, to solve problems.
5. Apply matrix skills and probability analyses to model applications to solve real-world problems.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A pre- and post-test questions will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester

Course Evaluation: There will be departmental final exam questions given by all instructors.

Attendance/Student Engagement Policy: Attendance and engagement are the most critical activities for success in this course. The instructor maintains records of the student's attendance and submission of assignments throughout the semester. The student is expected to attend at least eighty percent (80%) of the total class meetings and submit at least eighty percent (80%) of the total class assignments to have the best chance of success. If the student fails to meet these minimum requirements, the instructor may remove the student from the class with an X, upon their discretion, to help the student from harming their GPA. If the student cannot receive an X, the instructor will assign an F.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect from the student and the instructor. Neither the instructor nor the student should be subject to others' rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning behavior. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

Tentative Calendar for Spring 2026				
Week	Day	Date	Topics	Notes/Homework
1	Monday	Jan 12	Introduction/Initial Assessment	
	Wednesday	Jan 14	Solving Linear Inequalities	1.1
2	Monday	Jan 19	MLK Jr. Holiday	
	Wednesday	Jan 21	Graphs & Equations of Lines	1.2
3	Monday	Jan 26	Functions & Linear Business Applications	1.3
	Wednesday	Jan 28	Quadratic Functions & Applications	1.4
4	Monday	Feb 2	Quadratic Functions & Applications	1.4
	Wednesday	Feb 4	Exam 1	Unit 1
5	Monday	Feb 9	Polynomial Functions & Applications	2.1
	Wednesday	Feb 11	Polynomial Functions & Applications	2.1
6	Monday	Feb 16	Rational Functions & Applications	2.2
	Wednesday	Feb 18	Probability & Expected Value	2.3
7	Monday	Feb 23	Markov Chains	2.4
	Wednesday	Feb 25	Exam 2	Unit 2
8	Monday	Mar 2	Exponential Functions	3.1
	Wednesday	Mar 4	Logarithmic Functions	3.2
9	Monday	Mar 9	Exponential & Logarithmic Equations and Applications	3.3
	Wednesday	Mar 11	Simple and Compound Interest	3.4
	Mar 16 - 20		Spring Break	
10	Monday	Mar 23	Annuities	3.5
	Wednesday	Mar 25	Annuities	3.5
11	Monday	Mar 30	Exam 3	Unit 3
	Wednesday	Apr 1	Systems of Linear Equations (2 variables)	4.1
12	Monday	Apr 6	GJE with Applications	4.2
	Wednesday	Apr 8	GJE with Applications	4.2
13	Monday	Apr 13	Input-Output Models	4.3
	Wednesday	Apr 15	Linear Programming: Graphical Method	4.4
14	Monday	Apr 20	Linear Programming: Simplex Method	4.5
	Wednesday	Apr 22	Linear Programming: Two-Phase Method	4.6
15	Monday	Apr 27	Exam 4	Unit 4
	Wednesday	Apr 29	Review for Final Exam	
16	Monday	May 4	Final Exam 5pm – 7pm	Comprehensive

Last day to drop a class: April 30th