

Online MATH 1050 COLLEGE ALGEBRA

SUMMER SEMESTER 2011

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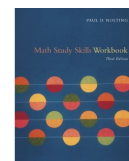
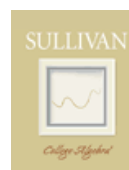
REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- *MyMathLab* access kit for College Algebra 8th Ed., Michael Sullivan - Prentice Hall. This comes packaged with NEW textbooks or can be purchased separately at a bookstore or online directly from www.coursecompass.com (less expensive).
- Graphing Calculator (see “Technology Requirements” for specifics)



RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

- College Algebra 8th Ed., Michael Sullivan. The complete textbook is available online with your *MyMathLab* access, however most of my past students recommend that you have a hard copy of the text. (If you buy the textbook it should come with *MyMathLab* access).
- Math Study Skills Workbook, Paul D. Nolting. I have the older version of this workbook and I think it is very helpful for students to improve their study and test-taking skills.



SLCC is committed to fostering and assessing the following student learning outcomes in its programs and courses:

- Acquiring substantive knowledge in the field of their choice
- Developing quantitative literacies
- Developing the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged
- Thinking critically
- Communicating effectively

GENERAL EDUCATION STATEMENT

This course fulfills the **Quantitative Literacy (QL)** requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning. General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student’s knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one’s life. While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, this course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Online College Algebra! Please read this syllabus carefully. It will answer most of the questions you may have about how Math 1050 fits in with your goals as a student at Salt Lake Community College and will detail the requirements you must meet to complete the course. This course, along with Math 1060, is intended to prepare students for a comprehensive course in Calculus and is required for a major in math, physics, chemistry, engineering, and computer science, as well as many of the life sciences. This course continues to explore, in greater depth, standard algebra topics many of which were addressed in Math 1010. Topics will include the following: 1) functions, including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic; 2) systems of equations; matrices and determinants; partial fraction decomposition; 3) conics; and 4) sequences and series.

Math 1050 satisfies the graduation requirement in mathematics at SLCC. Math 1030 Quantitative Reasoning, Math 1040 Introduction to Statistics, and Math 1090 College Algebra for Business Majors also satisfy graduation requirements. If you are not sure of the proper course for you, contact a representative in your major department at SLCC or your transfer institution. If you have not chosen a major, contact your academic advisor.

PREREQUISITES: This course is for students who have successfully completed an intermediate algebra course, such as Math 1010, with a grade of C or better, or who otherwise qualify by virtue of acceptable CPT or ACT scores achieved **within the past year**. Substitutions for the intermediate algebra course include an ACT score of 23 or better, or a CPT score of at least 43 on the college algebra section. **If you do not have documentation for one of these prerequisites, you must enroll in a math class appropriate for your background.**

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The primary objective of College Algebra is for students to gain a theoretical and operational understanding of the college algebra topics listed above. Graphing technology, computers, or graphing calculators will be utilized to assist students in grasping these concepts. **However, your performance will be measured primarily on your understanding of the concepts and your facility in doing symbolic operations rather than your ability to use technology to get answers.**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a theoretical understanding and manipulative facility of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic.
- Apply algebraic skills to the formulation and solution of “real-world” application problems.
- Represent equations and systems of equations graphically through the use of graphing technology, and to integrate the algebraic and graphic interpretation of these concepts.
- Advance readily to higher-level math classes; Trigonometry and Calculus.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ONLINE CLASS

GRAPHING CALCULATOR: You will need a graphing calculator for this class. Graphing calculators are used to demonstrate concepts and facilitate problem solving. They are not a substitute for learning the concepts. Basic facts, such as finding exact values, are as important for you to know without the aid of a calculator. While some homework assignments, projects, and exam questions will require the use of a graphing calculator, most questions on exams will test basic facts that must be memorized.

It is now a departmental policy in the Math 1050 course that any calculator with a computer algebra system will not be allowed on any exams, including the final exam. Prohibited calculators include the TI89, TI92, TI-Nspire, HP 48SX, HP 48GX, as well as other models and brands. Students may use any calculator or computer software (e.g. Maple) on homework or projects but must use an approved calculator on exams. **In addition, a cell phone or other handheld device may not be used as a calculator on any exams, including the final exam.**

You will need to be able to use your graphing calculator for more than just adding, subtracting and multiplying. You will need to dedicate some time to learning to use your calculator as an effective tool. Help in learning to use a graphing calculator (and some math software) is available in the graphing utilities appendix in your textbook, in CourseCompass (see the “Math Helps” button and the “Tools for Success” folder), in the math lab (SI 092) or Learning Centers (see <http://www.slcc.edu/learningcenter/index.asp> for locations). There is also a “TI Graphing Calculator Help” linked to the SLCC Mathematics Department web page (<http://www.slcc.edu/math/resources.asp>).

Alia’s recommendation if you need to purchase a graphing calculator for this class is the TI-83. You’ll need the calculator starting the end of the first week of class and continuously from then on. I bought mine used off of eBay for pretty cheap and it got to me in about 2 days.



COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS: The course content, including learning modules, video clips, worked examples, homework assignments, tests, announcements, and all other course information are located in our class *MyMathLab* site. You will need **daily access to a high-speed internet connection** for multimedia content. Due dates will not be adjusted for individual connection problems, so please identify some alternative options should your primary computer or connection have a problem. The math lab in SI 092, the learning centers, the SLCC library, public libraries, etc. are all locations where you can complete your coursework even if you are having access problems at home.

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS: For *MyMathLab* technical support you can chat, phone, or email. Visit http://mymathlab.com/contactus_stu.html to contact them. If the *MyMathLab* site is not working, try going to the “backdoor” at <http://www.mathxl.com> and clicking on the *MyMathLab* User log-in at the bottom of the screen.

You will frequently need a **printer** for printing things like the course calendar, reading assignments, projects, homework exercises, etc.

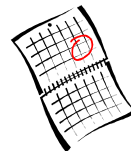
You will need access to a **scanner** in order to submit projects and other handwritten work. The scans do not need to be in color, but you need to save files as a single PDF formatted file. If you do not have your own scanner, most copy centers can scan a document and save it to a USB drive for you for a small fee.

Your computer must meet **minimum system requirements** (detailed here http://www.coursecompass.com/html/system_requirements.html) to work with www.coursecompass.com and the *MyMathLab* program

To participate in live virtual classroom sessions, including required exam reviews, you will need to be able to use the **Wimba** program. Information about accessing Wimba, including installing necessary software, is available on our course *MyMathLab* site under the “Wimba Classroom” button. A headset with microphone and earphones is helpful but not necessary for your participation.

COURSE STRUCTURE and ASSESSMENTS

This online class will not have any face-to-face meetings however it will have strict daily due dates. You will learn the course material, communicate with your instructor and classmates, and complete homework and most tests in our class *MyMathLab* site (housed within www.coursecompass.com). The course is divided into seven learning modules. You will work independently to read your textbook and watch recorded video lectures to learn the material. You will then practice your skills by completing online homework exercises with strict due dates. You will complete technology-based projects and participation assignments and will take timed online module exams, all with strict due dates. You will take three proctored exams at a testing center on specified days: two cumulative midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam.



Because of the time involved in learning the material outside of a classroom plus completing the assignments, you need to be able to dedicate **several hours every weekday** to this class. **You should be prepared to spend at least one hour each day for learning the material and at least two to three hours additionally for completing the homework assignments. That is at least three to four hours per day for a total of 15 to 20 hours per week minimum.** **If your schedule does not allow this time commitment you should consider taking Math 1050 another semester.**

COMMUNICATION: The primary method of communication in this class will be e-mail. You may use the e-mail system of your choice or the one in *MyMathLab*. When you register for *MyMathLab*, please use an email address that you will check regularly (you do not have to use your SLCC address, and you can set up your SLCC email address to automatically forward to another email). Your instructor will also post important information in our class *MyMathLab* announcements page. Please check your e-mail and the announcements page in *MyMathLab* every time you log-in as you are responsible for this information.

GRADING: Grades will be assigned according to this scale:

A	93-100%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	63-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	55-62%
C+	77-79%	E	Below 55%

The grade you earn will be recorded on your SLCC transcript. Grades are not negotiable. No work will be accepted after the last day of class. Limited, if any, extra credit opportunities may be available. **If you need to achieve a certain grade in this course be careful to complete all assignments, plan appropriate time for studying, and get help as needed so that you will achieve your goal.**

POSTING OF GRADES: Grades will be posted in your SLCC MyPage account by August 11.

ASSESSMENTS: Your grade will be based on an accumulation of scores as follows:

Reading Assignments and Online Homework in <i>MyMathLab</i>	10%
Technology-Based Project	10%
Participation Assignments	5%
Module Tests in <i>MyMathLab</i>	10%
Midterm Exam #1	20%
Midterm Exam #2	20%
Departmental Final Exam	25%

VERY IMPORTANT: Homework and Module Tests in *MyMathLab* MUST be completed and submitted by **11:59 p.m. on the due date**. Due dates are listed on the course schedule and posted in *MyMathLab*. It will not be possible to access homework or online exams once the deadline has passed. **Finish assignments BEFORE the final due date!** Please note that this course follows Mountain Time. Students who are taking the course from another time zone will need to make the necessary adjustments.

HOMEWORK and READING ASSIGNMENTS: Your homework assignments will be completed online in *MyMathLab*. The best way to do online homework is to work problems in a notebook first, then enter the solution online. You can copy the problems by hand or you can use the “print homework” feature of *MyMathLab* to print out the problems in the exercise set. The important part is to keep the steps you do for each problem easily accessible and organized as you will use this same notebook to study for the midterms and final exam.

You may redo and resubmit homework assignments as many times as you like up to the due date. Your last score will be the one recorded for each assignment. Due dates are listed in *MyMathLab* as well as on the class calendar. Some sections take longer than others to understand and complete. Working ahead of the schedule will allow you to ask questions and spend more time on the longer assignments. ****Finish your homework assignments before the due date!**** Internet access problems could prevent you from being able to finish assignments if you wait until the last day. Plan ahead so you won't be affected.

ONLINE ORIENTATION ASSIGNMENT: The first assignment of this course is the orientation assignment. This assignment will be part of your grade and **must be completed in *MyMathLab* by Monday May 16th 11:59 PM or you will be dropped from the course**. Information about how to complete the assignment will be sent to students via email at least one week before the semester begins. The orientation assignment has multiple parts and you must complete them all.

Brief Reading Assignments are associated with each section in the course. You will print these pages and complete them while learning the material for each section. These will then be useful review notes in your preparation for module tests and proctored exams.

TECHNOLOGY-BASED PROJECT: All Math 1050 courses at Salt Lake Community College require projects. There will be one required project in Math 1050 this semester with due date indicated on the class calendar. These projects are designed to allow students to examine “real-world” applications using technology as a tool. You are encouraged to work with other students in the course to complete these projects.

General Education ePortfolio: Math 1050 College Algebra is a General Education class at Salt Lake Community College. Each student in General Education courses at SLCC is required to maintain a General Education ePortfolio. Instructors in every Gen Ed course will ask you to put at least one assignment from the course into your ePortfolio, and accompany it with reflective writing. Therefore, it is a requirement in this class for you to add to your ePortfolio. More information about the SLCC ePortfolio requirement and the Math 1050 signature assignment is available in our class CourseCompass site.

Your ePortfolio will allow you to include your educational goals, describe your extracurricular activities, and post your resume. When you finish your time at SLCC, your ePortfolio will then be a multi-media showcase of your educational experience. For detailed information including a Student ePortfolio Handbook, video tutorials for each supported ePortfolio platform, classes, locations and times of free workshops and other in-person help, visit <http://www.slcc.edu/gened/eportfolio/Students.asp>.

After you have picked an ePortfolio platform, go to the corresponding help site to watch the tutorials and look at the examples so you can get started on your own: <http://slcceportfolio.yolasite.com>, <http://slcceportfolio.wordpress.com>, or <http://slcceportfolio.weebly.com>.

If you would like to start your ePortfolio in a computer lab with a person there to help you, you can sign up online for one of the free workshops at the Taylorsville-Redwood, South, and Jordan Campus libraries: <http://libweb.slcc.edu/refilt/forms/eportfolio>.

PARTICIPATION ASSIGNMENTS: As a general education course, students in Math 1050 are required to participate in some group/interactive work with classmates. You will participate in this class by attending live virtual classroom sessions in Wimba and by contributing to discussion sessions using the *MyMathLab* discussion board (located under the “Communications” button in our class *MyMathLab* site). Your instructor may announce additional assignments throughout the semester. Completing participation assignments constitutes 5% of your course grade. Non-participation **WILL** reduce your course grade and could make the difference in you achieving a passing grade.

EXAMS:

MODULE TESTS IN *MyMathLab*: There will be seven online module tests during the semester. These exams will be timed – you will have 120 minutes to complete each exam in *MyMathLab*. Once you access the test, the time starts and you must complete it. **No online test can be taken late - please make sure you complete the online tests by the date posted on the calendar or you will earn a grade of zero for that exam.** All online tests will be closed book, closed notes, no helps. Failure to take the tests under these conditions is CHEATING and will also cheat you out of preparation for the mid-term and final given under the same conditions.

You will have the opportunity to **re-take one** of the seven tests if you are not happy with your score. Near the end of the semester you will be sent an email asking if you'd like to re-take one of the chapter tests. You must reply to this message if you'd like to re-take a test and you will be sent a password for the re-take. The re-take must be completed by August 3rd.

MIDTERM EXAMS AND FINAL EXAM:

This course requires two proctored midterm exams and a proctored final exam. **It is an SLCC Math Department policy that you will receive a grade no higher than a D in Math 1050 if your final exam score is lower than 60%. Additionally, for online Math 1050, if your score on either of the two midterm exams is lower than 60%, you can receive a grade no higher than a D for the course.** This course requires testing to be completed in-person at a SLCC Instructional Testing Center or facilitated at another location by an approved proctor.

Students who live in Salt Lake County are required to go to the Instructional Testing Center for exams. Instructional Testing Centers are located at Taylorsville Redwood Campus, Construction Trades Building (CT), Suite 070 and at South City Campus, Main Building, Suite N-287. You must show a current college ID “SLCC one card” to take an exam. ID's are available in the Student Center. **To take an exam at the Instructional Testing Center, you must make a reservation** for a specific day and time. For more information, go to <http://slconline.squarespace.com/testing/#in>.

Students who live outside of Salt Lake County must arrange for a proctor through the Distance Education Service Center. **Proctors need to be approved by the second week of the semester (May 27th).** Go to <http://slconline.squarespace.com/testing/#out> for information on arranging for a proctor.

CUMMULATIVE MIDTERM EXAMS:

The midterm exams will be paper/pencil exam; not on a computer. There will be around 20 questions on each test. The majority of the test questions will not be multiple choice, but will require you to carefully show your work. You will be awarded partial credit on these questions. Show all steps toward your final solution clearly and concisely. Answers with no logical steps or work that cannot be read or clearly followed will be marked incorrect. You will be allowed 120 minutes to complete each midterm exam. Approved graphing calculators may be used on the exams, but no books or notes.

The first midterm exam will cover material learned in Modules 1 and 2 (assigned sections from chapters 1-4). You must take the first midterm exam on **June 7th or 8th**.

The second midterm exam will cover material learned in Modules 3 and 4 (assigned sections from chapters 5 and 6 plus section R.6). You must take the second midterm exam on **July 6th or 7th**.

FINAL EXAM:

The final exam for Math 1050 will be a paper/pencil comprehensive departmental examination emphasizing topics listed under the course objectives. You will have 120 minutes to complete the exam. You may take your approved graphing calculator and writing utensils, but no other items will be allowed. You must take the exam on **August 4th or 5th**. More information about this exam, including a link to access old math department finals, can be found on our class *MyMathLab* page.

POLICIES and INFORMATION

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT: All students at SLCC must comply with the Student Code of Conduct: http://www.slcc.edu/policies/docs/Student_Code_of_Conduct.pdf. In particular, note the Academic Standards on page 27 with regards to cheating, misrepresentation, out-of-class work, and plagiarism. In compliance with this document, a student who is academically dishonest will receive an E for this course.

CLASSROOM DEPARTMENT: Each student is responsible for his/her own behavior. Any student who shows a pattern of disrespect for others, or who at any time displays egregious disrespect for others, will be subject to penalties as per the student code of conduct.

PERMANENT FOLDER: To minimize the possibility of computer or human error all graded homework, projects, and exams should be kept by the student until you have received your final grade for the course.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY: Students may withdraw from the course through June 30th, 2011. NO withdrawals will be approved after that date.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Students with medical, psychological, learning or other disabilities desiring accommodations or services under ADA, must contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC determines eligibility for and authorizes the provision of these accommodations and services for the college. Please contact the DRC at the Student Center, Suite 244, Redwood Campus, 4600 So. Redwood Rd, 84123. Phone: (801) 957-4659, TTY: 957-4646, Fax: 957- 4947 or by email: linda.bennett@slcc.edu.

EXTRA HELP: College Algebra is a challenging course, but the methods for success are simple: read the text, participate in the class, and keep up on all assignments. Many students find that forming study groups with other students is a very effective way for them to master mathematics. If you need extra help, free tutoring is available in the Math Lab (SI 092) and the Learning Centers. The Learning Center also maintains a Wimba classroom for online tutoring. You can find details about how to access as well as locations, hours, and a list of private tutors who may be hired at <http://www.slcc.edu/learningcenter/index.asp>. There are many resources within *MyMathLab* that you can use for additional help. The orientation videos will help you learn about these, and also go to the “Math Helps” button in our class *MyMathLab* site for more ideas.

Visit the SLCC math department web site at: <http://active.slcc.edu/math/>. On the left of the screen, click on Resources for Student Success. This page contains a wealth of valuable information. Learn about workshops, tutoring, software, videos, and web sites that are all designed to HELP YOU SUCCEED in Math 1050.

Finally, read and be aware of the regulations set forth in the Summer Schedule 2011 and the SLCC college catalog. Please see your instructor ASAP about any problems that are affecting your work in this class.