South Plains College
Department of Mathematics & Engineering
Math0315 – Beginning Algebra
Course Syllabus – Spring 2019

Instructor: Jerod Clopton
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Office Hours:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2:00 – 4:00	10:00 – 11:00	2:00 – 4:00	10:00 – 11:00	10:00-12:00
Or by appointment				

Course Information

Course Description: MATH 0315 – Beginning Algebra: (3:3:1) Prerequisite: MATH 0310 or appropriate test score. This course is designed for students who need MATH 0320. Topics include signed numbers, algebraic expressions, linear equations and inequalities in one unknown, and graphing. Time in a math lab is required. This course will not satisfy graduation requirements. Semester Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Lab Hours: 1 Note: This course will not satisfy graduation requirements. This course is required if testing indicates a need.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Use appropriate symbolic notation and vocabulary to communicate, interpret, and explain mathematical concepts.
2. Define, represent, and perform operations on real numbers, applying numeric reasoning to investigate and describe quantitative relationships and solve real world problems in a variety of contexts.
3. Use algebraic reasoning to solve problems that require ratios, rates, percentages, and proportions in a variety of contexts using multiple representations.
4. Apply algebraic reasoning to manipulate expressions and equations to solve real world problems.
5. Use graphs, tables, and technology to analyze, interpret, and compare data sets.
6. Construct and use mathematical models in verbal, algebraic, graphical, and tabular form to solve problems from a variety of contexts and to make predictions and decisions.

Course Supplies:
- **Required:** Large 3-ring binder, dividers, notebook paper, graph paper, pencils, and erasers.
- **Optional:** While not required for this course, a scientific calculator may be used when allowed by the instructor. **Graphing calculators are not allowed at any point in this course.**
- **Optional**: (textbook) College Algebra with Intermediate Algebra, A Blended Course, by Beecher / Penna / Johnson / Bittinger, ISBN-9780134556505.
- **Warning:** Do not expect your instructor to have supplies for you to borrow.

Course Assessment

Homework: Homework assignments will be given to you during class and will be available through Blackboard. Consistently working problems reinforces the skills and concepts presented, and is essential for success in this course. Do all homework on separate sheets of lined notebook paper. Late homework will *not* be accepted. Expect to spend *at least* two hours outside of class for each hour you spend in class working on math. Home will be counted as bonus points towards you quiz grade.

Quizzes: Expect to have weekly, if not daily quizzes. To do well on the quizzes, you need to be consistently completing the homework. Focus your effort on being able to complete the problems on a quiz/exam without any outside resources. **There is NO makeup for in-class quizzes and a grade of zero will be assigned.** Quiz grades comprise 20% of your overall average.

Exams:
- 4 Unit Exams – 16% each
- Final Exam is comprehensive.
- There are no exemptions for the final.
- If you are going to miss an exam contact your instructor immediately (preferably prior to the exam). Make up exams are very rare and only be provided under extreme, documented circumstances.
- Once you begin an exam, you will not be able to leave the classroom until the exam is submitted for grading.
- The grade from the final exam will also replace your lowest exam grade, as long as the grade from the final exam is greater than your lowest exam grade.

Grading Formula:
Enrollment in this course does not guarantee advancement to the next course level. The final responsibility for learning lies with the student. The final letter grade for this course will be based on the following:

4 Tests 16% each	64%
Homework/Quizzes	20%
Final Exam	16%

Final Grade Determination: A(90-100%), B(80-89%), C(70-79%), D(60-69%), F(0-59%)

Additional Statements

Classroom Etiquette:
- **Class attendance is expected, not optional**. Class attendance may be taken at any time during the class period, so please do not be late or leave early. Leaving early and being tardy will be considered 1/2 of an absence. You may be dropped from this course with a grade of X or F if you are absent four consecutive classes or if you exceed five absences (**for any reason**).
- Preparation for class (including homework) is to be completed before – not during – the lecture.
- Chronic tardiness (entrance after lecture has begun) is unacceptable.
- NO tobacco use of any form is allowed in the classroom.
- Discussion of course material among students is encouraged during class, but habitually disruptive students will be asked to leave.
- All electronic communication devices are to be silenced and put away during class.

Resources:
- Blackboard! The course syllabus, handouts for notes, homework, quiz keys, and reviews will be available on Blackboard.
- Free tutoring is available in M116 on the Levelland campus. Hours for the tutors will be posted by there.
- I am available to help you! Feel free to come by during my office hours or email me at jclopton@southplainscollege.edu

Use of Student Email: The College provides a free, official email account to all students to ensure efficient and secure communications between you and the College and your instructors. Students will be required to use their college-issued email address to communicate with their instructors and all other college personnel, so it is easy to distinguish a student's email from spam. The College expects that students will utilize their college email addresses to send and receive communications with college personnel and will read email on a frequent and consistent basis.

Withdrawal Policy: As required by Texas Education Code Section 51.907, all new students who enroll in a Texas public institution of higher education for the first time beginning with the 2007 fall semester and thereafter, are limited to six course drops throughout their entire undergraduate career. All course drops, including those initiated by students or faculty and any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution, automatically count toward the limit. After six grades of W are received, students must receive grades of A, B, C, D, or F in all courses. There are other exemptions from the six-drop limit and students should consult with a Counselor/Educational Planner before they drop courses to determine these exemptions. Students receiving financial aid must get in touch with the Financial Aid Office before withdrawing from a course. It is the student's responsibility to drop. Excessive absences (4 consecutive or 5 total) will result in an administrative withdrawal with a Grade of X or F. If you plan to withdraw, please consult with the instructor immediately.

Note: The last day to drop with a grade of W is Thursday, April 25, 2019.

Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to alter any class policies/dates as deemed necessary by the instructor, and will announce any changes in class.

Diversity Statement
In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Disabilities Statement
Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Non-Discrimination Statement
South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement
If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email cstraface@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement
Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: https://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Course Calendar – Spring 2018

Week	Date	Topic
1	Tue, Jan 15	Introduction Operations with Integers
	Thu, Jan 17	Operations with Rational Numbers
2	Tue, Jan 22	Exponents and Order of Operations
	Thu, Jan 24	Simplifying Algebraic Expressions
3	Tue, Jan 29	Linear Equations: Additions and Multiplication Properties Linear Equations: Using Properties Together
	Thu, Jan 31	Solving Linear Equations Involving Fractions and Decimals
4	Tue, Feb 05	Review
	Thu, Feb 07	Exam 1
5	Tue, Feb 12	Problem Solving: Direct Translation
	Thu, Feb 14	Problem Solving: Problems Involving Percent Problem Solving: Geometry and Uniform Motion
6	Tue, Feb 19	Solving Linear Inequalities
	Thu, Feb 21	The Rectangular Coordinate System Graphing Equations in Two Variables
7	Tue, Feb 26	Review
	Thu, Feb 28	Exam 2
8	Tue, Mar 05	Solving Systems of Equations by Graphing
	Thu, Mar 07	Solving Systems of Equations by Substitution Solving Systems of Equations by Elimination
	Tue, Mar 12	Spring Break
	Thu, Mar 14	Spring Break
9	Tue, Mar 19	Solving Problems Using Systems of Equations, Part 1 Solving Problems Using Systems of Equations, Part 2
	Thu, Mar 21	Adding and Subtracting Polynomials
10	Tue, Mar 26	Multiplying Monomials Multiplying Polynomials
	Thu, Mar 28	Dividing Monomials Dividing Polynomials

11	Tue, Apr 02	Review
	Thu, Apr 04	Exam 3
12	Tue, Apr 09	Greatest Common Factor and Factoring by Grouping
	Thu, Apr 11	Factoring Trinomials, Part 1 Factoring Trinomials, Part 2
13	Tue, Apr 16	Factoring Special Products
	Thu, Apr 18	Summary of Factoring Techniques
14	Tue, Apr 23	Solving Polynomial Equations by Factoring
	Thu, Apr 25	Review
15	Tue, Apr 30	Exam 4
	Thu, May 02	Review
16	Tue, May 07	Final Exam
	Thu, May 09	Final Exam

Note: This is a tentative calendar, meaning that topics and associated assignments may edited as deemed necessary by the instructor. Announcements of changes and adjustments will be made during class and posted on Blackboard.