Syllabus: MTH 138.028 College Algebra Honors

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Office: NM 322
Class times: MWF 10:00-10:50, Room 205
Office Hours: TTR 1:00-3:00

Required Materials
Book: *College Algebra: A Dream of Fields, Dumesnil and Starr*

Course Description
The core of this course is providing the basic knowledge and skills necessary for success in endeavors requiring analytical thought.

Final Grade Components

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Final Course Grade</th>
<th>Comprehensive Final Exam</th>
<th>Tests (6 @ 13.3% each)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>60% - 70%</td>
<td>80% - 90%</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>70% - 80%</td>
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<td>80% - 90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>60% - 70%</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>0% - 60%</td>
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Grading Scale

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<th>Final Grade Components</th>
<th>90% - 100%</th>
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<th>70% - 80%</th>
<th>60% - 70%</th>
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General Policies and Information
- At the beginning of class, you may ask questions on material covered the previous class period.
- You earn your grade by **communicating** your understanding of the material through tests. Clearly communicating mathematics will be essential in this course.
- I will send e-mails to the entire class during the course. Check your SFA e-mail address or have SFA forward your e-mail to an account you check at least daily.
- To contact me, you may call my office, drop by my office, or e-mail me. I will do my best to reply quickly.
- Students are expected to respect the learning environment of their fellow students.

Testing, Grading, and Make-up Policies
- If you miss a test and have a valid excuse, I will replace your missed test grade by your final exam grade. However, your final may only replace one other score.
- Students are expected to attend every class meeting, arriving on time.
- On in-class graded work, I expect you to only use your brains, pencil, and, sometimes, a calculator.

Tips for a Successful math class
- Measure success as **understanding** and being able to do new problems, not as having completed the assignment.
- Try to understand definitions and solving approaches.
- Take the time to read the book and **review your notes** before and after class.
- Practice homework problems until you can do it without referring to examples or help from your notes.
- Have someone check your work **after you have finished it** to help eliminate mistakes that you do not know you are making.
- Realize that math is hard. Some parts are harder for some people than others. Ph.D. mathematicians frequently find it hard to learn new things sometimes and make mistakes on things we already know. We have just learned to go back and refresh the basics, and keep working, even it takes hours, days, weeks, or years.
- Some people take longer to understand things than others. Evaluate how you study and seek to study smarter, not necessarily longer.

University Policies
- **Academic Integrity (A-9.1)** Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.
- **Definition of Academic Dishonesty** Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarismo. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3)
incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

- **Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)** Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C.

- **Students with Disabilities** To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).