MT 554.500, Conceptual Algebra  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
Course Policy Sheet and Syllabus—Spring 2020

Professor: Dr. Brittney Falahola  
Class Times: Online course, mostly through www.mymathlab.com

Office: 324 Mathematics Building  
Class Dates: January 15 – May 8

Email: falaholabl@sfasu.edu  
Office Phone: 936.468.1772

Office Hours: For the times in the table below, no appointment is needed; simply come by as your schedule allows. In addition, appointments may also be scheduled by emailing me in advance.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<td>1-3pm</td>
<td>2-3pm</td>
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<td>2-3pm</td>
<td>11am-12pm</td>
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Course description:  
Topics include mathematical models; solving equations; creating, interpreting and graphing functions. Particular focus is given to polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions.

Text and Materials:  
The textbook is College Algebra, 12th edition by Lial, Hornsby, Schneider, Daniels. Chapters 1 thru 5 of the textbook will be covered in this course.

The majority of this course will be completed through My Math Lab at www.mymathlab.com. When you create your account, use the course ID falahola93383

You will need a calculator for this class. A scientific calculator with log capabilities will be sufficient. The calculator function of a cell phone will not be permitted during the midterm or final exam.

Course Requirements:  
For each section of the textbook covered, you must complete a MyMathLab Lesson containing video instruction about the topic. Once you have mastered the lesson, you will then complete a MyMathLab online homework assignment for each section of the textbook, along with MyMathLab online quizzes covering two or three sections each. You are also expected to complete a skills check throughout the semester. See the Frequently Asked Questions document for more information.

In addition to these assignments, there will be pedagogy assignments due throughout the semester.

There will be two online exams, a face-to-face midterm, and a face-to-face final exam.

**Online Exam 1** – complete by Friday, February 14  
**Midterm** – Wednesday, March 4, 4-8 pm, SFA Math Building, Room 101  
**Online Exam 2** – complete by Wednesday, April 8  
**Final Exam** – Wednesday, May 6, 4-8 pm, SFA Math Building, Room 101

The midterm and final exam are both face-to-face exams. The midterm is a two-hour exam and the final is a two-and-a-half-hour exam, and each exam can be taken anytime between 4 and 8 pm on the above dates. (Note that the latest you can finish an exam is 8pm.) You will need to show a valid student ID or driver’s license with a recognizable picture in order to take the exams. If you have a conflict with the dates and times above, or would like to take the exam at a proctored testing location other than SFA, let me know as soon as possible before the exam so that other arrangements can be made. See the Frequently Asked Questions document for more information.
See the **Schedule of Due Dates** for exact due dates for all assignments during the semester. See the **Frequently Asked Questions** document for more specific information about the assignments and other aspects of the class. Both documents can be found on the Course Information tab in MyMathLab.

**Grading Policy:**

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

- **30%** Pedagogy Assignments  
  90% - 100% A
- **10%** MyMathLab Homework Assignments  
  80% - 90% B
- **10%** MyMathLab Quizzes  
  70% - 80% C
- **10%** Online Exam 1  
  60% - 70% D
- **15%** Midterm  
  0% - 60% F
- **10%** Online Exam 2
- **15%** Final Exam

100% Final Course Grade

Discussions, assignments, quizzes, and exams will not be accepted late. Attempt all work well ahead of the due dates so that any mathematical and/or technical problems can be cleared up ahead of time.

**Course Outline:**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Approximate time spent</th>
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<tr>
<td>Review of Algebra</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Functions, Graphs and Transformations</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equations and Inequalities</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebraic Reasoning to the Classroom</td>
<td>20%</td>
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**Attendance Policy:**

As this is an online class, attendance is considered routinely logging in and completing assignments in a timely manner. Attendance will not be formally factored into your course grade, however, incomplete assignments will naturally decrease your semester grade.

The following is an excerpt from SFA Policy 5.4:

The federal definition of a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or;
2. At least an equivalent amount of work as outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

To this end, all students in online courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics that wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of three hours for every credit hour associated with this course each week. Expected activities to be completed in the time include completing current lessons, reviewing previous lessons, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises, performing periodic assessment preparation, and completing online and face-to-face exams.

See [http://www2.sfasu.edu/math/docs/syllabi/MTE554Syllabus.pdf](http://www2.sfasu.edu/math/docs/syllabi/MTE554Syllabus.pdf) for elements common to all sections.