Name: Danielle Johnson  
Office: Math 349  
Phone: 936-468-1521

Department: Mathematics and Statistics  
Email: drjohnson@sfasu.edu

Class meeting time and place:  
Section 004 – MWF, 11:00 – 11:50 am, Math 209  
Section 007 – MW, 2:30 – 3:45 pm, Math 204

Office Hours: These hours have been set aside specifically to help students.  
Monday: 10:00 am – 10:30 am  
Tuesday: 2 pm – 4 pm  
Wednesday: 10:00 am - 10:30 am  
Thursday: 2 pm – 4 pm

Additional times are available by appointment. You may attend office hours in person in my office or via zoom.

Office hours ZOOM: link: https://sfasu.zoom.us/my/drcarriere?pwd=M3VDZkpRMnRSUUFWRFBmRXg2Uzkwdz09  
or use the Meeting ID: 451 497 5134 and Passcode: 429842

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 required textbook for this course is College Algebra (2nd Edition) by Julie Miller and Donna Gerken. The e-book is free and comes with a subscription to ALEKS homework system. ALEKS homework system is also free for this class this semester.

Online homework will be required using ALEKS homework system. The class codes are as follows:

Section 1314.004 (11 am MWF): A4AYE-FYXQC
Section 1314.007(2:30 MW): HFJQM-U4PF9

Calculator: When you are doing your homework and knowledge checks in ALEKS, a calculator option will be provided in ALEKS if you are supposed to use a calculator. If you are not supposed to use a calculator on a particular problem in ALEKS, then ALEKS will not provide you a calculator option. You will be allowed to use a calculator on your exams and will need to provide your own calculator for exams. You will need a scientific calculator for this class. Graphing calculators may be used, but are not required. Calculators that include a solver such as the TI-89 or TI-Nspire and calculators that have a QWERTY keyboard are not allowed. The calculator function of a cell phone or tablet will not be permitted during tests or quizzes. (Look for more helpful information about ALEKS in a news feed on the homepage of our course in D2L).

You will need a laptop computer for this class. You will need to bring your fully CHARGED laptop to class each class day. You must make a commitment to attend every class, to arrive on time and to stay the entire time. Bring all necessary materials to each class, be attentive to the task at hand, take notes, and be prepared to participate in class discussions. Most importantly, ask for help when you need it.

Course Requirements:  
There will be three exams and a final exam. The final exam is comprehensive and mandatory. Your final exam grade can be used to replace a low or missing exam grade. Therefore, there will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, your final exam grade will be substituted in place of the missing exam grade.

Please note that the dates for our in-class exams in the calendar below are subject to change. The final exam is university scheduled and cannot be taken at a different time without permission of the Dean of the College of Sciences and Mathematics.
Grading Policy:
Your final grade will be determined as follows:

- 20% Daily Average
- 60% Tests (3 @ 20% each)
- 20% Comprehensive Final Exam
- 100% Final Course Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80% - 90%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% - 80%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% - 70%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0% - 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20% of your grade will be determined by your daily average. This will include ALEKS homework average, other possible daily grades, attendance and/or participation grades. **In-class assignments cannot be made up.**

Attendance Policy:
Attendance will be recorded each class day. Students will be marked absent for leaving class early without prior notification. Students will be marked absent if, though physically present, the student refuses to participate in class or class activities (for example, sleeping, unauthorized use of phone, etc). Students will be marked absent if they are more than 5 minutes late to class.

General Policies and Information
- You earn your grade by **communicating** your understanding of the material through the homework, and tests. Clearly communicating mathematics will be essential in this course.
- I will send e-mails to the entire class during the semester, often through D2L. Make sure you have your personal D2L settings set to forward email notifications. Watch for important class announcements on the D2L newsfeed.
- Students are expected to respect the learning environment of their fellow students. Behavior that disrupts this environment will not be tolerated. **Please silence your phone and remove it from the table.**

Testing, Grading, and Make-up Policies
- If you miss an exam for any reason, your zero exam grade will be replaced by your final exam grade. If more than one exam is missed, the final exam grade will replace only one of the missed exams.
- You must bring and display either your SFASU Student ID or a valid driver’s license before you will be permitted to take each test and the final exam. I must be able to recognize you from the photo on the ID.
- You may use your (approved) calculator on exams.
- Students **may not share calculators during an exam.** Students **may not use cell phone calculators or smart watches during an exam.**
- Since you have a full semester to arrange any travel plans, they are not an excuse for missing the final exam.

There should be no reason to miss an exam other than:
- A. A medical excuse. Please provide proper documentation according to university rules.
- B. A University sponsored event such as an athletic tournament, a play, or a musical performance. Your coach or director must contact us in advance. Athletic practices and rehearsals do not fall into this category.
- C. A religious holiday. Please send a short email explaining the situation.
- D. Extreme hardship such as a family emergency. Please have the proper university office notify us.

The above are the only allowable excuses for taking the exam before the scheduled time. Under no circumstances do I give late exams. In some situations (with a valid excuse), it is possible to take an exam early, but not late. If you need to take an exam early, please email me and explain the situation and then a decision will be made to determine if you will be allowed to take the exam earlier than scheduled.

The university’s Attendance and Excused Absences Policy can be found at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp)
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 courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics that wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of two hours outside of class for every credit hour associated with this course. Expected activities to be completed in the time outside of class include reviewing notes from previous class meetings, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises and projects, and performing periodic assessment preparation.

See [http://www3.sfasu.edu/math/docs/syllabi/MATH1314Syllabus.pdf](http://www3.sfasu.edu/math/docs/syllabi/MATH1314Syllabus.pdf) for elements common to all sections.

MENTAL HEALTH: SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**

*SFASU Counseling Services*

[www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)

3rd Floor Rusk Building

936-468-2401

*SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic*

[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)

Human Services Room 202

936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**

Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343

Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)

Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741
Course Calendar:
The following is a tentative calendar for MTH 138 for this semester:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/23 – 8/28</td>
<td>Syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Objective 1 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/30 – 9/04</td>
<td>Objective 2 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/06 – 9/11</td>
<td>Objective 3 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/13 – 9/18</td>
<td>Objective 4 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled knowledge check Sept. 20th, 21st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/20 – 9/25</td>
<td>Objective 5 (See ALEKS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 1 (1314.004) – Wed. Sept 22nd</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 1 (1314.007) – Wed. Sept 22nd</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/27 – 10/02</td>
<td>Objective 6 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/04 – 10/09</td>
<td>Objective 7 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11 – 10/16</td>
<td>Objective 8 (See ALEKS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Scheduled knowledge check Oct. 18th, 19th</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/18 – 10/23</td>
<td>Objective 9 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Exam 2 (1314.004) – Wed. Oct. 20th</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 2 (1314.007) – Wed. Oct. 20th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/25 – 10/30</td>
<td>Objective 10 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/01 – 11/06</td>
<td>Objective 11 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/08 – 11/13</td>
<td>Objective 12 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled knowledge check Nov. 15th, 16th</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/15 – 11/20</td>
<td>Objective 13 (See ALEKS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Exam 3 (1314.004) – Wed. Nov. 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exam 3 (1314.007) – Wed. Nov. 17th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/22 – 11/27</td>
<td>Objective 14 (See ALEKS)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thanksgiving week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/29 – 12/04</td>
<td>Objective 15 (See ALEKS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAMS</strong></td>
<td><em>1314.004 (11 MWF): Final Exam Wed. Dec. 8th at 10:30 am – 12:30 pm</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12/06 – 12/10</strong></td>
<td><em>1314.007 (2:30 MW): Final Exam Fri. Dec. 10th at 8 – 10 am</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Course description:** Topics include mathematical models; solving equations; creating, interpreting and graphing functions. Particular focus is given to polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions.

**Core Objectives (CO):**
1. **Critical Thinking** [CO 1]: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. **Communication Skills** [CO 2]: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** [CO 3]: to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

**Credit hours:** 3

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 courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics that wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of two hours outside of class for every credit hour associated with this course. Expected activities to be completed in the time outside of class include reviewing notes from previous class meetings, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises and projects, and performing periodic assessment preparation.

**Course Prerequisites and Corequisites:** See general course prerequisites.

**General Education Core Curriculum:** This course has been selected to be part of SFA’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives. Assessment of these objectives at SFA will be based on student work from all core curriculum courses. This student work will be collected in D2L, the assessment management system selected by SFA to collect student work for core assessment.

By enrolling in **MATH 1314 College Algebra** you are also enrolling in a Core Curriculum Course that fulfills the Mathematics Core Objective requirement.

The chart below indicates: (a) The core objectives that are required to be taught in this course per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), (b) How the required core objectives will be addressed.
Core Curriculum Objective Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>How the Core Objective Will be Addressed.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking Skills</td>
<td>To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.</td>
<td>In studying transformations of functions, students will evaluate graphs to determine the function rule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td>Students will communicate algebraic thinking by writing solutions in both interval and function notation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</td>
<td>To include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.</td>
<td>Students will be presented with information regarding exponential functions and will draw conclusions based on the information/data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course outline:

- Making Mathematical Models [CO 1, 2, 3] 5%
- Linear Equations, Functions and Models [CO 1, 2, 3] 20%
  - Review of Coordinate Geometry
  - Graphs of Equations
  - Lines and Linear Modeling
  - Systems of Equations
- Quadratic Equations, Functions and Models [CO 1, 2, 3] 20%
  - Graphs of Quadratic Equations
  - Techniques for Solving and Optimizing Quadratic Equations
  - Applications of Quadratic Functions
- Functions [CO 1, 2, 3] 20%
  - Graphs of Functions
  - Algebra of Functions
  - Inverses of Functions
  - Special Functions
  - Polynomial Functions
  - Division of Polynomials and Factorization
  - [Rational Functions]
- Exponential and Logarithmic Functions and Models [CO 1, 2, 3] 20%
  - Exponential Functions
  - Logarithmic Functions
  - Logarithmic Identities and Equations
  - Exponential Equations and Applications
  - Modeling with Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
- Solving Equations [CO 1, 2, 3] 10%
  - Field Properties: Associativity, Commutativity, Identity, Inverses, Distributivity
  - Review Rules for Exponents
Incorporating Exponents and Logarithms in the Order of Operations

- Explicit instruction in Critical Thinking, Communication and Empirical and Quantitative Reasoning is in addition to implicit instruction, modeling and practice that occur daily in the discussion of college algebra. This explicit instruction includes explanation of solving mathematical problems by thinking critically, communicating logically ordered solutions with complete and correct notation, and applying empirical or quantitative skills as appropriate to the problem.

5%

Academic Integrity

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.

The penalty for a student found cheating on any part of an assignment, quiz, or exam in this class will range from a grade of zero on the work to a grade of F in the course, and may result in additional, more severe disciplinary measures. A student who allows another to copy his work and the student copying the work are both guilty of cheating. Do your own work. Do not show your completed work to others. Do not allow others to copy your work.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty (SFA policy 4.1):

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
- helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one’s own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source;
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades (SFA Policy 5.5)

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.

SFASU Mental Health Statement: SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.
Math 1314 – College Algebra
Syllabus Continuation

**On-campus Resources:**
SFASU Counseling Services
[www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
[www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp)
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

**Crisis Resources:**
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

**Acceptable Student Behavior**
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the [Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4](#)). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

**Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):** At the end of MTH 138, a student who has studied and learned the material should be able to:

1. Employ independence of thought and innovation in order to obtain solutions to typical algebraic problems. [CO 1]
2. Create, manipulate, analyze and solve algebraic equations and expressions, especially linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic expressions. [CO 1,3]
3. Connect graphical properties with those of associated functions or equations, and use these connections to communicate graphical or physical properties in algebraic language. [CO 2,3]
4. Read, interpret, and communicate written mathematics, both in prose and in its graphical or visual forms. [CO 2]
5. Use functions to model and solve real-world problems. [CO 1,3]

*There are no specific program learning outcomes for this major addressed in this course. It is a general education core curriculum course and/or a service course.*

*Date of document: 08/09/2021*