

## MAC1105 COLLEGE ALGEBRA GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSE SYLLABUS. (note: this document is subject to change)

### I. Semester Information

**MAC 1105:** College Algebra, 3 lecture hours, and 3 credit hours.

**Prerequisite:** Math placement test or a minimum grade of "C" or higher in MAT 1033. Current Semester: Fall 2023 CRN: 80272

### II. Contact Information

Instructor: Riccardo Mensitieri Associate Professor, BS Mathematics, MS Mathematics. I have been teaching mathematics at Gulf Coast State College for 8 years. I started in August 2014. I have taught a range of courses from Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Statistics, Precalculus and Business Calculus, and Calculus 1. I teach face-to-face courses as well as online courses.

Phone Number: (850) 769-1551 (ext. 5875)

Email: [rmensitie@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:rmensitie@gulfcoast.edu)

Division Chair contact information: Angelia Reynolds, [areynolds@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:areynolds@gulfcoast.edu); (850)872-3852

Division admin. Assistant contact information: Scott Spencer, [sspencer@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:sspencer@gulfcoast.edu); (850)747-3229

### III. Approved Course Materials and Resources

- a. **Textbook** MyLab Math with e-text for College Algebra 18weeks, Robert Blitzer, Copyright 2022, Pearson, **ISBN 9780137423361**
- b. **Graphing Calculator:** A graphing calculator is required (TI-83 or TI-84). The problems in the text, software, and course videos are illustrated using the TI-84+. Students are expected to have their own calculators. If a student wishes to use any other calculator, they must see their instructor in advance for approval.

### IV. Curriculum

- a. **Course Description:** Prerequisite: Math placement test or minimum grade of "C" in MAT1033. A graphing calculator is required. The TI-83/84 are the only allowable calculators for test days. If a student wishes to use any other calculator they must see their instructor in advance for approval. Topics included are functions and functional notation, domains and ranges of functions, graphs of functions and relations, operations on functions. Several types of functions and their applications are studied such as quadratic functions, rational functions, absolute value functions, exponential and logarithmic functions. Systems of equations and systems of inequalities are presented.
- b. **Methods of Instruction**
  - I. **Traditional Class Room Setting:** This course is conducted by the lecture-question-demonstration method. At the beginning of the

period, questions from the previous lectures and problem assignments are discussed. Following these discussions, the instructor lectures on current material from the text. Proofs and demonstrations of methods are presented thoroughly, when not beyond the scope of the course and the background of the students. A short summary is given and a problem assignment is made. Small group activity is encouraged. The use of the graphing calculator is demonstrated in class. When time permits examples of problems in MyLab Math should be shown. Students are also encouraged to use the videos available on the canvas master course. Unit tests and the final exam times are announced in advance through the daily academic schedule. Problems frequently missed are reviewed whether requested or not. (In order to detect areas of weaknesses and provide individual assistance to students, the instructor should continually monitor each student's progress.)

- c. **Broad Goals of the course:** The goal of this course is to give the student (1) a thorough background in algebra as a basis for the calculus sequence and (2) algebra skills and concepts useful in any future mathematics course work. It is expected that the student will be able to understand the concepts of algebra as well as work a range of problems, from basic problems up to the more difficult application and conceptual problems. The student must earn a grade of "C" or better in this course in order to proceed to the next level math course.

- d. **Approved Student Learning Outcomes (objectives)**

**The Student will:**

- i. Factor various algebraic expressions.
- ii. Solve and illustrate the graphs of absolute value inequalities; illustrate the graphs of equations and inequalities, with and without the aid of a graphing utility; examine and illustrate the graphs of functions. Solve absolute value equations.
- iii. Use appropriate methods to analyze and solve quadratic, radical, and other types of equations as well as systems of equations and inequalities.
- iv. Correctly use mathematical symbols and mathematical structure to examine and solve real world applications.
- v. Correctly identify and evaluate functions and their inverses.
- vi. Students will correctly memorize and apply mathematical formulas and properties.

**V. Student's Expectations of the Instructor**

- a. **Office Hours:** I am available 10 hours each week for office hours. I am also available at other times. The instructor can be reached at (850) 769 – 1551 (ext. 5875) or emailed at [rmensitie@gulfcost.edu](mailto:rmensitie@gulfcost.edu) in order to schedule an appointment outside of normal office hours. The instructor's office hours will be posted on their office door after the semester begins as well as in the Canvas course.

- b. **Learning Management System Usage Notification:** Canvas Resources are available for students to learn more about using the Canvas management system we are using for this course. Since all assignments are submitted through Canvas and/or MyLab Math (unless otherwise stated), access to a computer is required for this course. Students have free access to computers at all campuses. Canvas lists minimum computer specifications and supported browsers to ensure compatibility. The Chrome browser is recommended. The student can expect the instructor to provide a walk-through the course layout in Canvas, and MyLab Math with a clear explanation of how to access all course material therein: the textbook, lecture notes, video instruction, reviews, tests and quizzes.
- c. **Email/voicemail response time of the instructor:** The student should communicate with the instructor using the Canvas email system or the gulf coast email and can expect to receive a reply within 12-hour window. Additionally, the student may also call the instructor's extension and leave a voicemail, which will be answered when the instructor is in their office.

## VI. EXPECTATIONS OF THE STUDENT

- a. **Accountability:** The student will be held accountable for all material in this course. It is expected that the student is fully prepared for each test and taken on schedule date and time. This course should be viewed as a job. Attendance is necessary as well as attention to detail in order to be successful.
- b. **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:**  
Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in completing course work. "Plagiarism" includes, but it not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the program or the college.
- c. **GULF COAST MATH LAB (Tutoring help!) Online or face to face.**  
The math lab is on the second floor of SUW rooms 260 and 261 and their operating hours can be found either in the link provided in your Canvas course, on the college website, and on the math lab door. The math lab offers both face-to-face and online tutoring, please take advantage of this free service provided.

d. **Online Videos**

Course videos can be found in the Canvas course under each test material TABs. The videos are from the old edition book, but the topics are the same. If you miss a class, it is strongly encouraged that you watch these useful videos along with keeping up with any assignments for that section.

e. **Accessibility Statement**

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodations, you must register with Student Accessibility Services. Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process, email [sar@gulfcoast.edu](mailto:sar@gulfcoast.edu) or call 850-747-3243.

f. **Recording of Lectures**

HOUSE BILL 233 RECORDING CLASSES In accordance with federal and state privacy laws, students may record class lectures for their own personal educational use, in connection with a complaint to the college, or as evidence in internal or external legal proceedings. Students may not publish or upload the recordings or any components thereof without the knowledge and written permission of the faculty member. Failure to obtain permission to publish could lead to the students' having to pay damages, attorney fees, and court costs. For more information about what can be recorded, please see the guidelines on pages 36-38 in the GCSC Student Handbook <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/current-students/student-handbooks/2021-2022-student-handbook.pdf>.

g. **Attendance and Withdrawal Policy**

ATTENDANCE: This course should be viewed as a job and therefore attendance is necessary, as well as attentiveness to detail and alertness. Regular attendance and participation are significant factors that help to promote success in college.

WITHDRAWALS: There are two types of withdrawals.

- I. STUDENT WITHDRAWAL – Students wishing to withdraw from the course must complete a withdrawal form and submit the form to the Office of Enrollment Services before the scheduled withdrawal deadline as published in the college catalog. The last day to withdraw from any class is to be determined but is usually the week following midterms. Withdrawals cannot be processed beyond that date.
- II. ADMINISTRATIVE WITHDRAWAL – Students who do not make academic progress in this course will be withdrawn. A mandatory introduction and at least one online quiz must be completed within the first few days of the class opening for online classes or the student will be withdrawn as a “NO SHOW”. A student missing two

(2) tests can be withdrawn for failing to attend and make academic progress.

- III. CONSEQUENCES OF WITHDRAWALS: Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance.

h. **CLASSROOM CONDUCT POLICY**

In order to promote a learning environment in which you as a student may receive the greatest consideration, we will do all we can to prevent unnecessary interruptions and class disruptions. To this end, it is the stated policy of the Division of Mathematics that disruptions, absolutely and unequivocally, will not be tolerated in the classrooms administered by this division. To this end, we remind you that the **instructors are obligated** to adhere strictly to the following policies:

- I. Everyone is required to be in class on time.  
Anyone entering the classroom after the instructor has begun class is late and is disruption to the class. The instructor must implement an appropriate policy to discourage late arrivals.
- II. Disciplinary action in the case of cheating will be administered in accordance with college policy.  
As stated in the College Course Catalog "Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating and plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore cannot be condoned." See the *Student Handbook* for details on this policy. Cheating will result in you receiving the grade of "F".
- III. The student must have prior consent of the instructor before leaving the class early.  
If you must leave class early, notify the instructor before the beginning of class. We do not conduct "open" classrooms where individuals may arrive and exit at their discretion. This activity is disruptive to those trying to learn and will not be allowed. If you leave early without prior notification to the instructor, you will not be allowed back in the classroom without first obtaining permission from Mrs. Reynolds, Chair of the Division of Mathematics.
- IV. The instructor is not to allow talking or other inappropriate distractions to occur.  
Talking or other disruptive behavior (including all electronic devices such as IPODS, Blackberries, cell phones, except approved graphing calculators) is a distraction to other students and has no place in a college environment. Students who engage in such behavior will be asked to stop. If the behavior continues, the student will be asked to leave and confer with Mrs. Reynolds, Chair

of the Division of Mathematics, concerning the nature of the behavior before being allowed back in the classroom.

- V. Absolutely No food is allowed to be eaten in the classroom during class. Only Soda, coffee and water in a container closed with a lid is permitted in the classroom.
- VI. Infractions of discipline may be handled by the instructor as final authority. The student has a right to appeal.

## VII. Measure of Student Performance

- a. MyLab Math: there will be quizzes and homework assignments for each unit in my MyLab Math. You are allowed to repeat each unit quiz and homework multiple times and the highest score is kept. There will be unit test reviews that will give you a good indication of how you will do on the test in MyLab Math. There is also a final exam review.
- b. Testing: There will be five-unit tests and a final exam in MyLab Math. The unit tests will be announced in advance, will count equally, there are **no exemptions** from the final exam **[everyone must take the final exam]**.
- c. Grading: The average of the five-unit tests will count 50% of your grade. The quizzes will count 10% of your grade, the homework will count 15% of your grade, and the comprehensive final exam will count 25% of your grade. The grading scale is A (100-90), B (89-80), C (79-70), D (69-60), and F (59-0).
- d. Make Up Work: Unit quizzes are due by 11:59pm the night prior to your test day. Once the deadline is over the unit quizzes will not re-open. If you miss a unit test and you have a valid excuse, your instructor may decide to give a make-up test or not at his/her discretion. If a make-up test is granted, then the make-up is to be completed prior to the next class meeting. You must get approval prior to missing a test for a makeup test. If you have not missed any unit tests, the instructor has the option of allowing the final exam to be used to replace the lowest unit test grade. Unit tests **will not** be dropped.