1 Instructor

Zachery Sharon
Email: zachery.sharon@utsa.edu
Office Location: MS 3.03.14
Office Hours: TR 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, or by appointment

2 Course Description

Topics include algebraic expressions; equations; inequalities over the real numbers; relations, functions and graphs; polynomial and rational functions; systems of linear equations and inequalities; complex numbers; and matrices and determinants. A wide range of applications will be included in this course.

Class meets in MH 3.03.16 for 75 minutes Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm beginning Thursday August 29; the last day of class is Thursday December 5. The final exam is on Thursday December 12 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

3 The Text

College Algebra, 6th Ed. By Blitzer
The bookstore may have more than one packaged version of the book; any one of them should be fine. The printed book is not required for this course. It is optional.

4 Academic Technology

I will maintain a course website at math.utsa.edu/~oss924. All important course information will be available there, including my contact information, this syllabus, and test dates.

For exams, only simple (+, −, ×, ÷, √) calculators will be allowed. No graphing calculators, no cellphones, no exceptions.

This course requires use of MyMathLab.com. In order to complete assigned homework, you must purchase an access code for MyMathLab (MML). Some versions of the textbook come with an access code, but it is also possible to purchase it independent of the textbook. I recommend buying the text and the access code packaged together since it is cheaper that way. See the MML handout for more information.

If you have any problems registering with or using MML, use their online help and telephone help services. If any problems persist after exhausting those help services, let me know about the problem. The computers in the student computing labs should be set up to use MML.

MML has a discussion forum which you can use to talk to other students outside of class. This can be helpful of you miss class, forget something important, or want to organize a study group. Although MML has a message feature, you should use email to contact me, not MML.

Note that MML will be used for homework only. The “Current Total” number in MML is a feature that I do not use and it should be ignored. All important course information will be available on the official course website at math.utsa.edu/~oss924.
5 On-Campus Tutoring

The math department runs a tutoring lab in MS 2.02.11.
The Tomás Rivera Center is another on-campus tutoring lab. For more information, visit the web site at www.utsa.edu/trcss.

6 Coursework

Coursework will consist of homework assignments, quizzes, midterm exam(s), and a final exam.

6.1 Homework

Homework assignments will be completed on MyMathLab.com. Instead of having due dates for homework, homework may be completed at any time during the semester, but you must earn a score of at least 85% on a given assignment before moving on to the next one. For example, you cannot work on assignment 6 (or any subsequent assignments) until your score on assignment 5 is at least 85%.

6.2 Quizzes

There will be short (1 or 2 problems) quizzes about once a week. You will be required to show all relevant work on quizzes. Calculators will not be allowed. I will try to return these the following class day.

6.3 Exams

There will be one or two midterm exams (dates TBD) and a final exam. They will probably be roughly 70% multiple choice and 30% show-your-work. You will not need a scantron. A simple arithmetic calculator with a square-root, exponent, and/or % key is allowed. Scientific calculators, graphing calculators, and cell-phone calculators are not allowed.

7 Grading Policy

Grades on coursework will make up the final grade as follows:

Homework 20%, Quizzes 20%, Midterm(s) 30%, Final 30%

Final letter grades are assigned as follows:

A at least 90%
B at least 80%, but less than 90%
C at least 70%, but less than 80%
D at least 60%, but less than 70%
F less than 60%
8 Late Work and Missed Exam Policy

Missed quizzes cannot be made up, but I will drop the two lowest quiz grades. No homework grades will be dropped. There will be no make-up midterm exams under any circumstances. Given documentation for an excused absence from a midterm exam, its grade will be replaced by a weighted average of all subsequent exams. A missed final exam can only be made up if there is a very good reason that is clearly documented.

9 Attendance

There will be a sign-in sheet to track attendance. Class attendance and participation may be used to assign grades in borderline cases. There are also times when other university offices ask for records of student attendance. Students are solely responsible for signing in, and the attendance record will not be changed afterward.

10 Classroom Conduct

Students are expected to maintain a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. To assure all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Behavior that interferes with the class will result in verbal warning, followed by request to leave the class. Repeated disruptive behavior will result in more severe action, including, but not limited to, permanent removal from the class.

11 Scholastic Dishonesty

Students are expected to be above reproach in scholastic activities. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. “Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an exam for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Regents Rules of Regulations, Part one, Chapter VI, Section 3. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

12 ADA Statement

If you feel you may need an accommodation or special service for this class, please contact Disability Services in room MS 3.01.16, telephone (210) 458-4157, or website http://www.utsa.edu/disability/.

13 Core Curriculum Component Area Requirements

(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

- To apply arithmetic, algebraic, geometric, higher-order thinking, and statistical methods to modeling and solving real-world situations and to recognize the limitations of these models.
• To represent, evaluate, and interpret basic mathematical information through formulas, graphs, tables, and schematics, and to draw inferences from them.

• To use appropriate technology to enhance mathematical thinking and understanding and to solve mathematical problems and judge the reasonableness of the results.

This course may be used to fulfill the Core Curriculum Requirement in Mathematics. Please see the current Undergraduate Catalog for additional information concerning Core Curriculum Component Area Requirements.

14 The Roadrunner Creed

As a Roadrunner, I will:

• Uphold the highest standards of academic and personal integrity by practicing and expecting fair and ethical conduct;

• Respect and accept individual differences, recognizing the inherent dignity of each person;

• Contribute to campus life and the larger community through my active engagement; and

• Support the fearless exploration of dreams and ideas in the advancement of ingenuity, creativity, and discovery.

Guided by these principles now and forever, I am a Roadrunner!
To register for MAT 1023.011:

2. Under Register, click Student.
3. Enter your instructor’s course ID: sharon22774, and click Continue.
4. Sign in with an existing Pearson account or create an account:
   - If you have used a Pearson website (for example, MyITLab, Mastering, MyMathLab, or MyPsychLab), enter your Pearson username and password. Click Sign in.
   - If you do not have a Pearson account, click Create. Write down your new Pearson username and password to help you remember them.
5. Select an option to access your instructor’s online course:
   - Use the access code that came with your textbook or that you purchased separately from the bookstore.
   - Buy access using a credit card or PayPal.
   - If available, get 14 days of temporary access. (Look for a link near the bottom of the page.)
6. Click Go To Your Course on the Confirmation page. Under MyLab & Mastering New Design on the left, click MAT 1023.011 to start your work.

Retaking or continuing a course?

If you are retaking this course or enrolling in another course with the same book, be sure to use your existing Pearson username and password. You will not need to pay again.

To sign in later:

2. Click Sign in.
3. Enter your Pearson account username and password. Click Sign in.
4. Under MyLab & Mastering New Design on the left, click MAT 1023.011 to start your work.

Additional Information

See Students > Get Started on the website for detailed instructions on registering with an access code, credit card, PayPal, or temporary access.