Course Title: College Algebra

Description: College Algebra. Three credits. This course satisfies the General Education Mathematics requirement and meets specific requirements for programs as outlined in the MTSU Undergraduate Catalog.

Prerequisites: Two years of high school algebra and a Math Enhanced ACT score of 19 or greater or COMPASS placement.

Semester, Section Number, and Classroom: Fall 2013, 1710-026, VET 243

Instructor: Brents Ring

Office: KOM 258

E-mail/Phone: brents.ring@mtsu.edu / 615-494-8934

Office Hours: M-F 10:00-11:00; MWF 1:45-2:45; TR 1:30-2:30

Webpage: www.mtsu.edu/~hring

Attendance:
Attendance is required at each class meeting. Participation in University sanctioned activities or in military duties and situations where the institution’s policy on inclement weather is applicable are considered excused absences. However, non-attendance does not relieve a student of the responsibility for work covered or assigned. The instructor will keep a record of attendance for each student.

Required Text: College Algebra with Modeling & Visualization, 5th edition, by Rockswold

Calculator: A TI-83 or TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required for this course.

Purpose:
College algebra contains mathematics topics that are widely found in non-STEM contexts. The course includes material that is both useful and expands students’ understanding of mathematics beyond the entry-level requirements for college. The student’s mathematical skills are fostered in the areas of mathematical modeling with applications, problem solving, critical thinking skills, and the use of appropriate technologies.
Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course with a passing grade, the student will have

- Enhanced mathematical and problem solving skills.
- Applied algebraic methods to the solution of practical problems.
- Explored the capabilities of the graphing calculator to better understand algebraic concepts.
- Developed an understanding of functions from graphical, numeric, and symbolic viewpoints.
- Developed familiarity with polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions including examples of their utility in modeling real-world phenomena.
- Solved systems of linear equations by a variety of methods, including matrix methods.
- Applied counting principles in the computation of probabilities.

TBR General Education Mathematics Goal & Learning Outcomes:

TBR Goal:
The goal of mathematics is to expand students’ understanding of mathematics beyond the entry-level requirements for college and to extend their knowledge of mathematics through relevant mathematical modeling with applications, problem solving, critical thinking skills, and the use of appropriate technologies.

TBR Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Use mathematics to solve problems and determine if the solutions are reasonable.
2. Use mathematics to model real world behaviors and apply mathematical concepts to the solution of real-life problems.
3. Make meaningful connections between mathematics and other disciplines.
4. Use technology for mathematical reasoning and problem solving.
5. Apply mathematical and/or basic statistical reasoning to analyze data and graphs.

Course Requirements: In order to accomplish the learning outcomes of this course, the learner is required to

- Attend class lectures
- Participate in class activities
- Read and study assignments
- Solve assigned problem sets
- Complete test, quizzes, homework, etc.
- Complete a comprehensive final exam

If you do not take a final exam, you cannot pass the course.
**Course Topics:** This course consists of selected topics from Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 in the required text, *College Algebra with Modeling & Visualization, 5th* edition, by Rockswold, including linear, quadratic, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions; analysis of graphs; linear systems; inequalities; counting principles; and probability.

**Sections To Be Covered: (including any and all “optional material in each”)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Sections</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Functions and Graphs (Review)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Linear Functions and Equations</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Quadratic Functions and Equations</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Non-Linear Functions and Equations</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Exponential and Logarithmic Functions</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Systems of Equations and Inequalities</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Further Topics (Counting Principles and Probability)</td>
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**Course Evaluation and Grading:**

Attendance, homework, quizzes, and projects all total to no more than 15% of the final grade.

In-class tests all carry the same weight and total to no more than 75% of the final grade.

The comprehensive final exam accounts for 25% of the final grade. The final will only be given at the time noted below (under important dates) in the regular class meeting room. If you do not take the final exam you will automatically be assigned the grade of F for the course.

**Grading Scale:**

- A: 90-100%
- B: 80-89%
- C: 70-79%
- D: 60-69%
- F: Below 60%

**Final Exam:** The final examination is a Mathematics Department, multiple-choice, comprehensive examination given to all students enrolled in MATH 1710. Students are required to have completed the final examination as per the scheduled date/time for their respective section: see Academic Calendar on MTSU Pipeline. The final examination is closed book and closed notes (except for allowed 3x5 note card). Examination pamphlets and scratch paper are provided by the exam proctor. Unexcused absences for the final examination result in a course grade of F.

**Note:** Students are responsible for and required to bring the following materials to the final examination: (1) a large scantron, Form No. 4521, (2) a TI 83 or 84 Plus graphing calculator, (3) a #2 pencil, and (4) a small (3 x 5) note card containing student preferred information.

**Note:** The results of the final exam may be used for departmental and University study as a part of the Tennessee Board of Regents assessment of general education. Please know that no names will appear in the study and the anonymity of all test scores is assured. Your participation in the study is voluntary, and your decision to participate or not will not affect your course grade or your standing with Middle Tennessee State University.

**Important Dates:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Last Day to drop without a grade: September 6, 2013</th>
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<td>Last Day to drop with a W: October 29, 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam Time and Date: Tue., Dec. 10, 2013; 10:30 – 12:30</td>
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Judicial Statement/Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct is defined as plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating any such act. For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) Plagiarism. The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper acknowledgment.

(2) Cheating. Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.

(3) Fabrication. Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

(4) Facilitation. Helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic misconduct.

Academic misconduct will result in actions taken as defined by the MTSU code of Academic Integrity. A complete description of this code can be found at www.mtsu.edu/judaff. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions that may be imposed through regular institutional procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the right to assign an F or a zero for the work in question, or to assign an F for the course. If a student believes he or she has been falsely accused of academic misconduct, and if his or her final grade has been lowered as a result, the student may appeal the case through the appropriate institutional procedures.

Drop/Withdrawal Policy and Dates

Please note the Drop Policy and Withdrawal Procedures as they are stated in the Current Registration Guide. A grade of “I” will be given only in accordance with University Policy. No grade of “W” will be assigned after the official drop date except in situations involving extreme extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control. In particular, a “W” will not be granted merely because the student is failing. Students should be aware that missing the official drop date and thereby receiving an “F” can have ramifications on financial aid.

General conduct in class

The instructor has primary responsibility for control over all classroom behavior and can direct the temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct which otherwise violates the general rules and regulations of MTSU.

Attendance and Make-Up Policy

You are expected to attend class. Attendance will be taken at the discretion of the instructor. Make-ups will not be given for anything other than in-class exams, and only with the instructor's prior consent (emergencies excepted). A University approved excuse must be provided in order to be given a make-up exam and, depending on circumstances, the instructor has the right to not give a make-up exam.
Lottery Scholarship Policy:

Do you have a lottery scholarship? To retain Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. You may qualify with a 2.75 cumulative GPA after 72 attempted hours (and subsequent semesters), if you are enrolled full-time and maintain a semester GPA of at least 3.0. A grade of C, D, F, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility. Dropping a class after 14 days may also impact eligibility; if you withdraw from this class and it results in an enrollment status of less than full time, you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship. Lottery recipients are eligible to receive the scholarship for a maximum of five years from the date of initial enrollment, or until a bachelor degree is earned; students who first received the lottery scholarship in Fall 2009 or later will additionally be limited to 120 TELS attempted hours. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form via RaiderNet, review lottery requirements on the web at www.mtsu.edu/scholarships/telsprogram_scholarships.php, or contact the Financial Aid Office at 898-2830.

Math Tutoring Lab (MTL):

Math tutoring for this course is available as a free service to MTSU students in KOM 204. Tutoring is conducted by Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA’s), work study aids, and a faculty coordinator. The lab is closed on weekends and scheduled MTSU holidays. The hours of operation are posted in the lab. More information is available at http://mtsu.edu/math/students.php#tutoring

Reasonable Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodation, or you have questions related to any accommodations for testing, note takers, readers, etc., please speak with me as soon as possible. Students may also contact the Office of Disabled Students Services (2783) with questions about such services.