

**MATH 1050  
COLLEGE ALGEBRA  
SPRING SEMESTER 2009**

Instructor: Holly Wamsley  
Instructor's website: [http://www.uensd.org/class\\_pages/feb14/hwamsley/](http://www.uensd.org/class_pages/feb14/hwamsley/)  
Phone/E-mail: [hwamsley@graniteschools.org](mailto:hwamsley@graniteschools.org)  
Consultation: 2B and 3B  
Department Website: <http://active.slcc.edu/math/>

**TEXT:** College Algebra 8<sup>th</sup> Ed. (PLEASE PURCHASE BY 28 JANUARY 2009)  
By Michael Sullivan  
Prentice Hall, publisher

**SLCC is committed to fostering and assessing the following student learning outcomes in its programs and courses:**

- Acquiring substantive knowledge in the field of their choice
- Developing quantitative literacies
- Developing the knowledge and skills to be civically engaged
- Thinking critically
- Communicating effectively

**GENERAL EDUCATION STATEMENT:** This course fulfills the **Quantitative Literacy (QL)** requirement for the General Education Program at Salt Lake Community College. It is designed not only to teach the information and skills required by the discipline, but also to develop vital workplace skills and to teach strategies and skills that can be used for life-long learning. General Education courses teach basic skills as well as broaden a student's knowledge of a wide range of subjects. Education is much more than the acquisition of facts; it is being able to use information in meaningful ways in order to enrich one's life. While the subject of each course is important and useful, we become truly educated through making connections of such varied information with the different methods of organizing human experience that are practiced by different disciplines. Therefore, this course, when combined with other General Education courses, will enable you to develop broader perspectives and deeper understandings of your community and the world, as well as challenge previously held assumptions about the world and its inhabitants.

**INTRODUCTION:** Welcome to College Algebra! Please read this syllabus carefully. We feel that it will answer most of the questions you may have about how Math 1050 fits in with your goals as a student at Salt Lake Community College. **Copies of a generic syllabus, homework exercises, course calendar, and lab assignments can be accessed at the Math Department home page.** This course, along with Math 1060, is intended to prepare students for a comprehensive course in Calculus and is required for a major in math, physics, chemistry, engineering, and computer science, as well as many of the life sciences. Math 1050 satisfies the graduation requirement in mathematics at SLCC. Math 1030 Quantitative Reasoning, Math 1040 Statistics, and Math 1090 College Algebra for Business Majors also satisfy graduation requirements. If you are not sure of the proper course for you, contact a representative in your major department at SLCC or your transfer institution. If you have not chosen a major, contact your academic advisor.

**PREREQUISITES:** This course is for students who have successfully completed an intermediate algebra course, such as Math 1010, with a grade of C or better, or who otherwise qualify by virtue of acceptable CPT or ACT scores achieved within the past year. Substitutions for the intermediate algebra course include an ACT score of 23 or better, or a CPT score of at least 43 on the college algebra section. If you do not have documentation for one of these prerequisites, you are advised to enroll in a math class more appropriate for your background.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course continues to explore, in greater depth, standard algebra topics many of which were addressed in Math 1010. Topics will include the following: 1) functions, including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic; 2) systems of equations; matrices and determinants; partial fraction decomposition; 3) conics; and 4) sequences and series.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The primary objective of College Algebra is for students to gain a theoretical and operational understanding of the college algebra topics listed above. Graphing technology, computers, and / or graphing calculators will be utilized to assist students in grasping these concepts. **However, your performance will be measured primarily on your understanding of the concepts and your facility in doing symbolic operations rather than your ability to use technology to get answers.**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a theoretical understanding and manipulative facility of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic.
- Apply algebraic skills to the formulation and solution of “real-world” application problems.
- Represent equations and systems of equations graphically through the use of graphing technology, and to integrate the algebraic and graphic interpretation of these concepts.
- Advance readily to higher-level math classes, Trigonometry and Calculus.

**MATERIALS:** Use of graphing technology is required in this course. You will be assigned homework problems and project based labs, which require the use of a graphing calculator.

**CALCULATORS:** Graphing calculators are used to demonstrate concepts and facilitate problem solving. They are not a substitute for learning the concepts. Basic facts, such as finding exact values, are as important for you to know without the aid of a calculator. While some homework assignments, projects, and take-home exams will require the use of a graphing calculator, questions on in-class exams will test basic facts that must be memorized. At the discretion of your instructor, graphing, programmable, and scientific calculators may not be allowed for in-class exams.

Help in learning to use a graphing calculator (and some math software) is available in the math labs, which are located in SI 092 at Redwood, and W285 and N308 at South City Campus. There is also “TI Graphing Calculator Help ” linked to the department’s web page; click on “Resources for Student Success”. In addition, your textbook has a graphing utilities appendix.

**ABSENCES, TARDYS, AND LATE WORK:** Regular attendance is important to be successful in this class. I will follow the district citizenship policy regarding unexcused absences and tardies. Students may make up missed tests and quizzes before or after school. Assignments will be due the day the student takes the test. Students who are absent the day of a test will be given one week to make up the test. **NO MAKE UP QUIZZES OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED ONCE A STUDENT TAKES A TEST!!**

**HOMEWORK:** Attached is a listing of exercises assigned for home study. These exercises are considered the minimum required for sufficient understanding of the material. Students are encouraged to work more exercises than those assigned. Homework will be collected in the form of an assignment record sheet the day each exam is given. In addition to turning in the assignment record sheet, one or two of your assignments may also be collected at the teacher's choosing and discretion. A daily quiz will be given on homework. **Regular practice is essential for success in mathematics; you should be prepared to spend at least two hours studying outside of class for each hour of class time.**

**PROJECT-BASED LABS:** The project-based labs are found by going to the mathematics department website under "Standardized Course Materials". These projects are designed to allow the student to examine "real-world" applications using technology as a tool. You will be assigned at least two projects to complete during the course of the semester. Your instructor will assign specific projects for you to do.

**EXAMS:** There will be four chapter exams during the semester, each worth 100 points. All exams after the first one will be on a cumulative basis. **No exam scores will be dropped.** All examinations will be closed book and will be taken during a scheduled class period. **Full credit will be awarded on test problems only if your work can be readily followed and solutions are precise and clearly indicated.** There will be a comprehensive final the last week of the semester. **All students must take the final exam.** The final will be a standardized department examination emphasizing topics listed under the course objectives. It is an SLCC Math Department policy that students attaining a score of less than 50% on the final shall receive a grade no higher than "D" for the course. A packet designed for use in reviewing for the final may be purchased from the bookstore. **THE FINAL EXAM IS 20% OF YOUR FINAL GRADE IN THIS COURSE!**

**ADDITIONAL ASSIGNMENTS:** Your instructor throughout the course may assign brief written assignments, group exercises, or computer projects.

**CHEATING POLICY:** Students found cheating on an assignment will receive zero for that entire set of assignments. If there is a second offense of cheating on assignments, the student will fail the course. Students found cheating on tests will receive an "E" for the course. **There will be no tolerance for cheating!**

**PERMANENT FOLDER:** In case of human or computer error, it is recommended that you keep all homework, labs, and exams in a folder until you have received a grade for the course.

**GRADING:** Grades will be weighted as follows: Homework 15%, Quizzes 25%, Tests 60%. The SLCC semester grade is computed as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 37%, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 37%, Final Exam 26%. The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter high school grade must match the SLCC semester grade. Grades are awarded as follows:

A	100 - 93% of possible points	C	76 - 73%
A-	92 - 90%	C-	72 - 70%
B+	89 - 87%	D+	69 - 67%
B	86 - 83%	D	66 - 63%
B-	82 - 80%	D-	62 - 60%
C+	79 - 77%	E	below 60%

\*\*\*It is an SLCC Math Department policy that students attaining a score of less than 50% on the final exam shall receive a grade no higher than a "D" for the course.\*\*\*

**CLASSROOM CONDUCT:** Each student is responsible for her/his own behavior. Any student who shows a pattern of disrespect for others, or who at any time displays flagrant disrespect for others, will be subject to penalties. Please note that the instructor will strictly adhere to the Hunter High School policies on cell phones, music devices, citizenship, and food and/or drinks in the classroom. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken for the use of cell phones for any reason and for visible music devices with consequences as follows:

- 1) 1<sup>st</sup> offense: Teacher will warn student
- 2) 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Teacher will confiscate the phone or music device and give it to an administrator. The student may pick up the phone or device after a conference with the administrator which will take place after school.
- 3) 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: Teacher will confiscate the phone or music device and give it to an administrator. A parent and student may pick up the phone or device after a conference with the administrator.
- 4) 4<sup>th</sup> offense: Teacher will confiscate the phone or music device and give it to an administrator. The phone or music device will be returned to the student at the conclusion of the school year.

\*\*\*Please note: All of these offenses do not need to occur with the same teacher. The fourth offense with ANY teacher will result in the loss of your phone or music device for the entire school year.\*\*\*

**WITHDRAWAL POLICY:** Students may withdraw from the course through March 11, 2008. NO withdrawals will be approved after that date.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students with disabilities needing accommodations such as: accommodated testing, interpreting, note-taking, taped textbooks, assistive technology, equipment, accessibility arrangements, etc., must contact the Disability Resource Center (Redwood College Center - Room 244 or South City Campus Room W138), 957-4659 (voice), 957-4646 (TTY), 957-4947 (FAX).

**EXTRA HELP:** College Algebra is a challenging course, but the methods for success are simple: read the text, participate in class, and keep up on assignments. Many students find that forming study groups with other students is a very effective way for them to master mathematics. If you need extra help, free tutoring is available in the Learning Centers (phone 957-4172) at Redwood TB-213, South N308, Sandy Bldg. B, and Jordan Rm. 102. A list of private tutors who may be hired is available in the Learning Centers. It is also recommended that students peruse the "Resources for Student Success" link from the math department web page.

**RESOURCES FOR STUDENT SUCCESS:** Please visit the math department web site at <http://www.slcc.edu/math> . On the left of the screen, click on Resources for Student Success. This page contains a wealth of valuable information! Learn about workshops, tutoring, software, videos, and web sites that are all designed to HELP YOU SUCCEED in Math 1010.

Finally, read and be aware of the regulations set forth in the Fall 2007 Schedule and the SLCC college catalog. Please see your instructor ASAP about any problems that are affecting your work in this class.