

**Course Coordinator:** Mrs. Audrey Kruse, [akruse@uark.edu](mailto:akruse@uark.edu)

**MRTC Master Syllabus:** You are responsible for reading the MRTC master syllabus which can be found at <http://mrtc.uark.edu> .

**Course Description:**

This course entails exploration of College Algebra material using a real world application and math modeling approach through the exploration of functions. The focus of the course is to build confidence in problem solving and to increase number sense by using technology and exploratory learning.

**Textbook/Required Materials:**

- (Optional) *College Algebra* by Robert Blitzer, 6th Edition, Pearson
- **(Required)** University of Arkansas MyLabsPlus (MLP) Student Access Kit **(You MUST purchase your access code for MLP immediately, so you do not get behind in the course.)**
- TI-84 or below (or similar) calculator. The TI-84 is highly recommended.

**Grading:**

Homework	04.0%	Test 1*	12.0%
Quizzes*	15.0%	Test 2*	12.0%
Lab Minutes	04.0%	Test 3*	12.0%
Projects	08.0%	Test 4 (written)	08.0%
Participation	05.0%	Final Exam	20.0%

\* denotes assignments with a required prerequisite.

The final grade will be the weighted average of the above categories. Letter grades will follow a 90-80-70-60 scale. **There is no bonus, no rounding, and no curve in this course.** The grading scale is subject to change at the discretion of the course coordinator.

**MyLabsPlus (MLP):**

Most of the graded work in this course will be completed on the MyLabsPlus website which can be found at <http://uark.bb.mylabsplus.com> . The first thing you will need to do once you have logged into MLP is take the Course Entry Quiz which covers material from the MRTC master syllabus, this course syllabus and the Testing Center Guidelines. You will be required to earn a 100% on this quiz before any other assignments will open in MLP. If you have any trouble with MLP, please read the FAQ page at <http://mrtc.uark.edu> .

**Pre-Assessment:**

All college algebra students are REQUIRED to take the Pre-Assessment at the beginning of the semester. After you have bought the MLP access code and accessed your MLP course, you need to go to the testing center (CHPN 327) to take the Pre-Assessment. The Pre-Assessment will be taken on the computer using your MyLabsPlus account. You will be allowed 30 minutes to complete this assessment. The hours for the testing center are posted outside CHPN 327.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as needed. If changes are made, you will be notified of the changes in class or by your university e-mail address.

**Homework:**

This course is divided into 12 lessons. Each lesson has a Pre-Class Lesson Quiz (except Lesson 1), a homework assignment and a Lesson Quiz all of which will be taken in MLP. As soon as you complete a homework assignment with at least 90% accuracy the associated quiz will open for you in MLP. All homework assignments have unlimited attempts and **will stay open until the very end of the semester** so that you may continue to improve your score.

**Quizzes:**

There are two types of quizzes in this course. The Pre-Class Lesson (PCL) Quizzes are due the Sunday *before* the material is covered in class and are designed to encourage you to prepare for class. Print/read the associated PCL and take the quiz. You will have only one attempt at each PCL quiz. Lesson Quizzes are due the Sunday *after* the material is covered in class. You must complete the associated homework assignment with at least 90% accuracy before the Lesson Quizzes will open for you. You will have three attempts at each of these quizzes only the highest of which will count toward your grade. There will be **no makeups for quizzes**, but we will drop at least the two lowest quiz scores at the end of the semester.

**Exams:**

Most of your tests will be taken in the MRTC Testing Center (CHPN 327) on MLP. Refer to the Testing Center Guidelines on the Math Department's website <http://math.uark.edu/3747.php> before taking a proctored exam. Exams are timed with 10 minutes added to allow for entry of solutions into MLP and an additional 15 minutes added for possible internet issues/slowness. These combine to give a total possible exam time of 75 minutes for Tests 1, 2 and 3 and 100 minutes (Final Exam). Test 4 is a written exam that will be taken IN CLASS on the date listed in the course calendar. Tests 1, 2 and 3 have associated Review Homework assignments that must be completed with 85% accuracy before the test will open. Make-up exams will only be granted in extreme circumstances. Any requests for makeup exams will have to be submitted in writing along with any accompanying documents supporting the need for a make-up exam. Special considerations are entirely at the discretion of the course coordinator.

**Lab Minutes:**

Lab minutes are a required portion of this course. You can earn minutes by swiping your university ID in the math teaching lab located in CHPN 326. Lab minutes are divided into four sections:

- 150 minutes due on February 8<sup>th</sup>
- 150 minutes due on March 1<sup>st</sup>
- 100 minutes due on April 7<sup>th</sup>
- 100 minutes due on April 26<sup>th</sup>

You may earn a maximum of 50 minutes per day in the lab. Any minutes over 50 in a single day will not contribute to your required 500.

**Projects:**

There will be two group projects in this course. The content, format and deadlines will be defined at your instructor's discretion.

**Participation:**

Attendance is required for this course. The participation portion of your grade will be defined at your instructor's discretion.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as needed. If changes are made, you will be notified of the changes in class or by your university e-mail address.

**Calculator Policy for the Testing Center:**

You may use a TI-84 (or below) calculator with the cover removed. All other calculators must be pre-approved by your teacher. Proctors and teachers will NOT be able to help you with calculator operations during tests. YOU must clear the calculator memory BEFORE and AFTER the test.

**Make-Up Policy:**

Homework on MyLabsPlus may be made up at any time for full credit up until the final day as indicated on the course calendar for your class. MyLabsPlus tests will not have any make-up work allowed except for extenuating circumstances. Any requests for test make up will have to be submitted in writing along with any accompanying documents supporting the need for a make-up exam. Special considerations are entirely at the discretion of the course coordinator.

**Technology Use Policy:**

This course has an online component and you are expected to ensure that you can access all course material on a regular basis either from the university or from home. Additionally, certain technical abilities will be required, such as installing necessary plug-ins, and upload files. **If you have a problem with a personal computer or interrupted network connection, you are still responsible for submitting your work on time!**

**Netiquette Policy:**

Netiquette is online etiquette. It is important that all participants in courses involving an online component be aware of proper online behavior and respect each other.

Use appropriate language for an educational environment:

- Use complete sentences
- Use proper spelling and grammar
- Avoid slang and uncommon abbreviations
- Do not use obscene or threatening language

Remember that the University values diversity and encourages discourse. Be respectful of differences while engaging in online discussions. For more information about Netiquette, see The Core Rules for Netiquette (<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>) by Virginia Shea.

**Communication:**

All course instructors have posted office hours and can be contacted through e-mail or MyLabsPlus. If you need to meet with your instructor outside of office hours it will be up to you to make an appointment with that instructor.

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as needed. If changes are made, you will be notified of the changes in class or by your university e-mail address.