Spring 2026

This syllabus is subject to change.

Credit Hours: 3

Text: *College Algebra*, 5th Edition with MyMathLab, chapters 1-6.
Authors: Beecher, Penna, and Bittinger
A digital version of the textbook can be found on the course canvas page.

Course Description: The course covers basic algebra skills. Linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions are included. Systems of linear equations are also covered.

The goal of the course is to either satisfy the University of Pittsburgh's minimal mathematics requirement or to prepare you for success in subsequent courses involving mathematical quantitative reasoning. Math 0031 along with Math 0200, PreCalculus, is the prerequisite for Scientific Calculus, Math 0220. Alone, Math 0031 is the prerequisite for Business Calculus.

Course Objectives:
At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Graph elementary functions and be able to perform graph shifts.
2. Evaluate linear equations and inequalities.
3. Solve polynomial and rational equations.
4. Apply techniques to solve exponential and logarithmic functions.
5. Rearrange systems of linear equations to obtain a solution.

Lectures, Labs, and Recitations: In lecture, you will meet with your instructor and will learn new concepts. All students will be expected to attend lectures in person. If the situation arises, some classes may be held on Zoom, but this will be rare, if it happens at all.

In recitation, you will go over practice problems similar to the material covered in lecture. During recitations, your TA will go through practice problems to help you become proficient in the course material. Quizzes will be administered during recitations.

Grade Distribution:

Homework	10%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm 1	25%
Midterm 2	25%
Final Exam	30%

Some sections may deviate slightly from this recipe. Any deviations will be announced by your instructor at the beginning of the term.

Letter Grade Distribution:

>= 93.00	A	73.00 - 76.99	C
90.00 - 92.99	A-	70.00 - 72.99	C-
87.00 - 89.99	B+	67.00 - 69.99	D+
83.00 - 86.99	B	63.00 - 66.99	D
80.00 - 82.99	B-	60.00 - 62.99	D-
77.00 - 79.99	C+	<= 59.99	F

Textbook: All students who register for this course are automatically enrolled in the RedShelf Inclusive Access program and will be charged on their Pitt student bill unless they opt out before the end of the add/drop period. This program provides students with discounted access to the digital version of the textbook. If you already have a copy of the textbook or would prefer to purchase it from a different source (for example, you may be able to find a used copy at a lower cost), then you should opt out of Inclusive Access. You will be able to opt out by clicking on the "RedShelf Inclusive Access" link in your course on Canvas. More detailed instructions for opting out can be found here. If you do not opt out of Inclusive Access, then you will be able to access the digital textbook.

Assessments and Grades:

- **Homework**
  - Your homework will be through a computer program called MyMathLab.
  - There will be 12 problem sets throughout the semester, each with 4 to 8 problems.
  - You are expected to use a calculator for the homework.
  - You can log on to www.mymathlab.com.
- **Quizzes**
  - There will be 8 quizzes at various points during the semester.
  - At the end of the semester, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.
  - If you miss a quiz for any reason, you may make up the quiz within one week. Please contact your TA to schedule a time to makeup the quiz.
  - No calculators or notes are allowed for the quizzes.
- **Midterms**
  - There will be two midterms in this class.
  - Midterm 1 will be on February 23rd and Midterm 2 will be on April 6th.
  - No calculators or notes are allowed for the midterms.
  - Makeup for the midterms will be allowed on a case by case basis.
- **Final Exam**
  - Your final exam location and time are TBA.
  - The final for algebra is departmental, meaning that every student taking this class this semester will get the same exam.

- No calculators or notes are allowed for the final.
- Evening sections will meet through final exam week, and the final exam will be given during the last one or two scheduled class periods.

Getting Help:
Free, walk-in tutoring is available in the Math Assistance Center (MAC) located in the O'Hara Student Center Room 215, 4024 O'Hara Street.

Office Hours: Your instructor will announce his office hours

Academic Integrity:
Students in this course will be expected to comply with the University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized materials to an exam, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

To learn more about Academic Integrity, visit the Academic Integrity Guide for an overview of the topic. For hands- on practice, complete the Academic Integrity Modules.

Disability Services:
If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services (DRS), 140 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890, drsrecep@pitt.edu, (412) 228-5347 for P3 ASL users, as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Religious Observances:
The observance of religious holidays (activities observed by a religious group of which a student is a member) and cultural practices are an important reflection of diversity. As your instructor, I am committed to providing equivalent educational opportunities to students of all belief systems. At the beginning of the semester, you should review all course requirements to identify foreseeable conflicts with assignments, exams, or other required attendance. If at all possible, please contact me (your course coordinator/s) within the first two weeks of the first class meeting to allow time for us to discuss and make fair and reasonable adjustments to the schedule and/or tasks.

No Use of Generative AI Permitted:
Intellectual integrity is vital to an academic community and for my fair evaluation of your work. All work completed and/or submitted in this course must be your own, completed in accordance with the University's Guidelines on Academic Integrity. You may not engage in unauthorized collaboration or make use of ChatGPT or any other generative AI applications at any time.