

COLLEGE ALGEBRA CONCEPTS AND APPLICATIONS

Instructor: Aaron Ragsdale
Email: aragsdale@math.arizona.edu
Office: Math 714
Office hours: TBA

1. KEY RESOURCES

- Homework: <http://math.arizona.edu/~aragsdale/teaching.html>
- Course website: <http://math.arizona.edu/~algebra/>
- D2L website: <http://d2l.arizona.edu>
- MyMathLab website: <http://www.coursecompass.com>
- Code of academic integrity: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity>

2. CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND POLICY

The class wide course policy can be found at <http://math.arizona.edu/~algebra>, where you can also find information regarding the final exam. Attendance is expected for all classes. If you know you will miss a class, please inform me *beforehand* in order to discuss homework submission, quiz make-up, and material that will be covered. I will not accept homework or allow quiz make-ups due to unexcused absences. Note the course policy that three unexcused absences can result in being dropped from the class.

All cell phones must be turned off or silenced during class. Absolutely no cell phone usage is tolerated in class. If you must use your cell phone for any reason, please be respectful of other students in class and step into the hallway.

You will not be required to bring your textbook to class. However, please bring your workbook every day, as we will regularly work problems in class from the workbook. **Also, be sure to bring your calculators to class.** They will be used frequently.

When sending an email to me (aragsdale@math.arizona.edu), please include “Math 112” in the subject line. This helps with organization and ensures that your email will be read and replied to promptly. All emails from me will also include “Math 112” in the subject line.

3. HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework will be assigned regularly for each section covered. Homework is an essential component of this course, as the best way to learn math is by doing it! There will be two sources for homework problems:

- The textbook **College Algebra, revised edition** by Shell and Ruud
- MyMathLab, found at <http://www.coursecompass.com>

Written homework, both required and recommended problems, will be assigned and posted on my website, and solutions to required problems will be due at the beginning of class on the assigned date. This homework will be graded both on completion and correctness with 10 points possible. Late homework may be submitted for feedback, but a grade of zero will be given for any late assignment. If you know you will miss a class, please email me to make arrangements to turn in your homework early, or give it to someone to bring to class.

Additionally, there will be an in-class quiz for each section after that section’s homework is due, with problems being drawn from either the required or recommended homework problems. These will be graded for complete and correct solutions with 10 points possible.

Homework format:

- Write your name, the textbook section, and the date at the top of your paper
- You may write on both sides of the paper, but multiple pages **must be stapled**
- Please write legibly and clearly show your work. Incomplete reasoning or illegible writing cannot be fully graded - “solutions” are worth more than just “answers”

We will also be using computer grading program called MyMathLab. On the website, enroll in this course using the course ID **ragsdale29892**. In order to receive credit for homework done on MyMathLab, the assignment must be completed by the posted due date and time (always 11:59 pm). Please pay close attention to the date and time, since they are not flexible.

Discussion of homework problems and working together is encouraged in this course, but each student must write up their own solution to every problem. For more details, see the code of academic integrity.

Grading technique:

Grades will regularly be posted and updated on the D2L website.

- Homework problems will be graded considering the following:
 - Demonstrates an understanding of the concept
 - Accuracy in calculations, arithmetic, and solutions
 - Appropriate formatting of the assignment, graphs, plots, etc...
- All problems will be graded, and points will be deducted for incomplete homeworks

Of the 750 possible points awarded for this class, 150 of these points are from homework and quizzes. Note that more than 150 homework points will be available over the course of the semester, and at the end of the semester, the homework scores will be scaled to total 150 possible points based on the following guideline:

$$\text{Homework score} = 100 \times \frac{\text{Homework and quiz pts}}{\text{Total possible pts}} + 50 \times \frac{\text{MyMathLab pts earned}}{\text{Total possible pts}}$$

Let's make this a great semester! I am always available through email for any question you may have.