



**SCOTTSDALE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

A MARICOPA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Course Information

Semester & Year:	Spring 2025
Course Title:	College Algebra
Course Prefix & Number:	MAT151
Section Number:	30180
Credit Hours:	4
Format:	online
Start Date:	Jan 27, 2025
End Date:	May 9, 2025

## Course Format

The format for this course is 14-week online. **Canvas will not be used for this class.**

## Instructor Information

Instructor:	Paniz Tavassoli
Email:	<a href="mailto:paniz.tavassoli@scottsdalecc.edu">paniz.tavassoli@scottsdalecc.edu</a>
Phone:	(480) 423-6015 (phone number to my office – I rarely answer it)
Office Location:	CM-427
Office Hours:	Mon/Wed 9 - 9:30 AM and 12 – 12:30 PM Thursday 9 - 9:30 AM and 12 – 2:30 PM Virtual (Google WebEx link posted in MOER)

*The information contained in this syllabus is subject to change at any time during the semester by the instructor. Any changes will be announced through the email you use to create your MOER account.*

## Course Description

Analysis and interpretation of the behavior and nature of functions including linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomials, rational, exponential, logarithmic, power, absolute value, and piecewise-defined functions; systems of equations, using multiple methods including matrices, and modeling and solving real world problems.

## Prerequisites

Prerequisites: A grade of C or better in MAT095, or MAT096, or MAT114, or MAT115, or MAT12+, OR an appropriate district placement for MAT15+, OR permission of Department or Division Chair.

## Course Notes:

MAT151 students may receive credit for only one of the following: MAT150, OR MAT151, OR MAT152, OR MAT155, OR MAT156.

## Course Objectives

1. Calculate and interpret the average rate of change in varied contexts, using function notation including the difference quotient.
2. Define, distinguish, and interpret the relations and functions and their inverses represented verbally, graphically, numerically, or algebraically.
3. Evaluate functions, including composition, and solve function equations and inequalities using multiple methods.
4. Set up, solve, and interpret the meaning of solutions of systems of linear equations using multiple methods, including matrices where appropriate.
5. Identify, graph, analyze, and determine the key characteristics of the following function types and their transformations: linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, power, radical, rational, exponential, logarithmic, absolute value, and piecewise-defined.
6. Model real world situations using a variety of mathematical techniques (including regression) and solve real world mathematical problems using functions.

## Texts and Course Materials

**Textbook:** College Algebra, Scottsdale Community College Edition, Jay Abramson, ISBN: 978634348478. Students can view the textbook online for free from the MOER site. Download for free: [OpenStax College Algebra Textbook](#)

**Calculator (required):** A graphing calculator is required for this course. A TI-83, TI-83+, or TI-84 are recommended. Calculators with QWERTY keyboards or those that do

symbolic algebra (such as the TI-92 or TI-89) are NOT allowed. You are expected to bring your graphing calculator to each class session. Your cell phone may NOT be used as a calculator during class.

View the [Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies](#) of technologies used in this course.

**Computer Access (required):** You will need regular access to a computer with reliable internet connection to complete online assignments. You are responsible for completing all assignments and exams on time regardless of any computer issues that may occur.

**E-mail (required):** You will need a working email address that you CHECK REGULARLY. I do send regular class announcements and information via the email you use to create your MOER account. It is your responsibility to provide a valid email address that you keep up with so that you can receive notifications of class announcements. *You may send me messages from your MOER account.* It is the best way to contact me since it is only used by students. This way your messages won't be buried with the dozens of other emails I receive daily.

**Response Policy:** I strive to respond to student messages within 8 business hours, typically sooner, from Monday through Thursday. Please note that business hours are from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Messages sent after 5:00 PM on Friday will be addressed starting at 9:00 AM on Monday. Additionally, holidays are not considered part of business hours. Ensure that all communications adhere to the "Netiquette" rules outlined in MOER. Messages that do not comply may not receive a response. Online lessons, homework, quizzes, and exams are graded immediately in MOER upon submission.

## Course Technologies

View the [Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies](#) of technologies used in this course.

### Maricopa Systems

This course uses key Maricopa systems for course management and communication.

- Student Maricopa Gmail Account
- Maricopa Open Educational Resource Learning System (MOER)
- Canvas Learning Management System

### Streaming Media/Audio/Video Tools

This course uses webcasting and YouTube

# Technical Requirements

Students are responsible for meeting these technical requirements in order to begin this class:

- An email address that you check regularly (use this when you set up your MOER account) Reliable, high-speed Internet connection
- Webcam (internal or external) and microphone (only if the student needs to take an exam online)
- Headphones or working speakers connected to the computer (only if the student needs to take an exam online)

## MOER Account

We will be using MOER as the course learning management system. The syllabus, schedule, announcements, assignments, and grades will be accessible through MOER. There is **no cost** for this access. It is important that you check your MOER account regularly so that you are informed of any announcements/information sent during the week. Failure to create a MOER account by the end of Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> will result in being withdrawn from the course. Course materials and required text can be downloaded for free from the MOER site. Link: <https://moer.maricopa.edu>

**Course ID:** 20495

**Enrollment Key:** SCC2025Sp151

## Grading Standards & Practices

### Grading Weights:

(Video Assignments and Online Homework)	25%
Online Quizzes	15%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

### Grading Scale

A	90% - 100%
B	80% - 89%
C	70% - 79%
D	60% - 69%
F	59% or less

## Lesson Structure

The topics for this course have been divided into Lessons which are due on the dates indicated on the Course Schedule. Give yourself plenty of time to work through the problems, take good notes, and get help as needed.

Below are the three steps to complete each Lesson. Note that **Video Assignments, Homework, and Quizzes** are designed to take several days to complete.

### Step 1: Video Assignment

- The Video Assignment serves both as an introduction to the topic and as a resource for how you should aspire to write your solutions and express your mathematical work.
- You will have three tries for each problem in the Video Assignment. After the third attempt, you can generate a new problem for full credit.
- **The link to the Online Homework will not appear until the Video Assignment has been completed with a score of 80%.**

### Step 2: ONLINE HOMEWORK

- After completing the Video Assignment, you can start the Online Homework. **The link to the Online Homework will not appear until you have the required 80% Video Assignment score.**
- You will have three tries for each problem. After the third attempt, you can generate a new problem for full credit.
- **The link to the Online Test will not appear until the Homework has been completed with a score of 80%.**

### Step 3: Required Quizzes

- **The link to the Online Test will not appear until you have the required 80% score on the Online Homework.**
- **The Online Test will consist of questions very similar to the questions that are in the Optional Practice Test.** Thus, it is highly recommended that you do the Optional Practice Test as many times as it takes to get 100% on the first attempt of questions.
- You may use your calculator and notes on the quizzes, but ***no other assistance is permitted.***
- You will have **only one attempt** for each problem in the quiz so be sure to enter your answers very carefully!
- You have 60 minutes to complete the test.
- Quizzes are due on (or before) the dates indicated on the Course Schedule. Give yourself plenty of time to complete assignments and get help as needed before the due date. **Do not wait until the last minute!!!**
- After your exam is finished, you can retake the entire test a second time but you will have to work on new versions of each the questions. **The computer will keep the highest of the two scores.**

**General Conduct:** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a responsible, mature,

and academically honest manner. Be honest in everything you do. Do not present someone else's work as your own. Any student caught cheating on an assignment/exam will receive a grade of zero for that assignment/exam and is subject to disciplinary action in accordance with SCC policies. This may include withdrawal from the class.

## Late Passes

If you miss an assignment deadline, you can apply a Late Pass to complete the assignment for full credit. Each Late Pass will extend the due date by one day. Multiple late passes can be applied if more time is needed. (65,535 Late Passes available during the semester). There is no penalty for problems/assignments completed while using a late pass. Late Passes may not be used after the end date of the course. **Late Passes can NOT be applied for Reviews, Quizzes, Midterm, and Final exams.**

## Proctored Exams

- Two Proctored Exams (a midterm exam and a final exam) will be given during the semester.
- There is a required review assignment for each exam.
- You may use your graphing calculator but NO NOTES on these exams. Calculators that perform symbolic manipulation will **not** be permitted during any exam: examples include the TI-89, TI-92, TI-Inspire, HP-48, HP-48G, and Casio 9970. Your cell phone may not be used as a calculator during an exam. Your calculator program memory will be checked prior to each exam and may be cleared if it contains any programs, notes, or formulas related to exam topics.
- You are required to present **photo ID** in order to take an exam. If you do not have photo ID, you will not be allowed to take the exam. There can be no exceptions to this policy.
- **The two proctored exams will be given on campus.** An online form will be sent to students allowing them to inform the instructor of which of the 3 methods listed below they will use to take the exams. Students that cannot take it on campus must contact the instructor to make alternative arrangements such as taking it online using ProctorU.
- All exams must be completed in order to earn a grade (A, B, C, D, or F) for this course.
- **Make-up Policy:** To take an exam late, a student must have extenuating circumstances and must contact me by the day of the exam! I count all missed exams as a 0%. It would then be very unlikely for the student to pass.

## Proctoring Options for Exams

### **Option 1: Instructor-Proctored Exam (Recommended and Free)**

Exams will be given in person on the SCC campus. Dates will be posted in MOER. Bring your

calculator, pencils, erasers, and photo ID with you when you come to take these Exams. You will need to know your MEID (not your student ID), and password to be able to log in to school computers. This is the same password as you use to log into your school Gmail account.

### **Option 2: SCC Testing Center (Free)**

If you are unable to take an exam at these scheduled times on the SCC campus, you can take the exam in person at the **SCC Testing Center** on or before the due date. The SCC Testing Center is free and by appointment only (no walk-ins). Contact the instructor for more information. Arrangements for the Testing Center must be made by the instructor **at least one week in advance** of the scheduled exam. Here is a link to the [SCC Testing Center Website](#) for more information. You will need to know your MEID (not your student ID), and password to be able to log in to school computers. This is the same password as you use to log into your school Gmail account.

### **Option 3: Online via ProctorU (Fees apply)**

**ProctorU is NOT free and students pay all of the associated fees.** You can use an online proctoring service called **ProctorU** to take these exams remotely on or before the due date. ProctorU allows test-takers to take a supervised exam on demand or by appointment.

***ProctorU fees vary based on how far in advance your session is scheduled.***

During the testing session, you will be supervised live through a webcam and the proctor will have access to your computer using screen sharing technology as you take your exam. **Please note that ProctorU requires a room scan prior to all testing sessions.** If the room scan is not acceptable to the student, then other arrangements besides ProctorU must be made.

Students must [create an account](#) with ProctorU and [download the Guardian Browser](#) onto a personal computer. You should [test your equipment](#) before taking the exam to ensure no difficulties will arise on exam day. For your reference, read the [System Requirements for ProctorU](#) and [ProctorU Terms of Service](#). ProctorU is a fee-based service. [ProctorU - Test-Taker Information](#)      [Student Guide](#)

## **Academic Dishonesty**

When academic dishonesty is suspected, students may be asked to describe their solution method or to redo a similar problem. Students who are found to be cheating on an exam will receive a 0 for the exam.

## Course Policies

The following are policies specific to this course. Students are also responsible for the college policies included on the [Student Regulations](#) page of the Maricopa Community College District website.

### Course Grading Policy

Exam scores are non-negotiable and extra-credit is not offered in this course. Discussions about how the exam is graded will not be discussed via email. Instead, students are encouraged to meet with the instructor to review their exam performance. Final course grades are calculated using the scale listed in the syllabus (rounded to the nearest percent) and are non-negotiable. It is unethical for a student to request their final percentage be rounded up to earn their desired grade in the course.

### Attendance Policy

If you go 7 consecutive days without attending this course, I am required by law to withdraw you. Since this course is online, the following is a list of activities that constitute online class” academic attendance” and “attendance at an academically-related activity” for purposes of determining the last day of attendance according to 34CFR668.22(l)(7)(i):

- (1) Physically attending a class where there is an opportunity for direct interaction between the instructor and students;
- (2) Submitting an academic assignment;
- (3) Taking an exam, an interactive tutorial, or computer-assisted instruction;
- (4) Attending a study group that is assigned by the institution;
- (5) Participating in an online discussion about academic matters; and
- (6) Initiating contact with a faculty member to ask a question about the academic subject studied in the course

### Withdrawal Policy

Please note that every instructor is allowed to write and implement their own withdrawal policy. Do not assume that my policy will be the same as that of other instructors or that theirs will be the same as mine.

The withdrawal dates for your specific class can be found in My.Maricopa.edu, Student Center under *My Class Schedule*. You are responsible for dropping within the window to obtain a refund. If you choose to withdraw from class, it is your responsibility to complete the appropriate procedure by the designated deadline. If you wish to withdraw beyond



this deadline, you will need my signature and may receive a "W". If you find that you need to withdraw from the course, please speak to me about it first. I may be able to recommend other options or discuss alternative courses of action concerning future classes.

**This is not a self-paced class.** You have assignments and due dates and must make regular and consistent progress on course work and assignments. Please note that I will not give you an F if you merely stop participating. If you meet or exceed the limits listed below, then you may be withdrawn from the class and not receive a letter grade (A–F).

- Any student who takes the Final Exam may not be granted a W for the course.
- **Students who have not created their MOER account and completed the syllabus quiz assignment by the end of the first day of class (11:59 pm) may be dropped from the class.**
- Students who do not log in to MOER and make progress on the assignments for a 7-day period may be withdrawn from the class.
- Cheating on any assignment will result in an automatic zero on that assignment.
- Students who do not make other arrangements in advance and do not take an exam at the scheduled time may earn a withdrawal from the course.

## **Instructional Contact Hours (Seat Time)**

This is a 4 credit-hour course in 14 weeks. According to the Federal Credit Hour Definition, students should expect to spend a minimum of **13 hours** each week working on the required online assignments that are part of this course.

## **Math/Science Tutor Center**

The Math Center offers in person and remote tutoring to students who are currently enrolled in mathematics courses at Scottsdale Community College. Visit their webpage for more information: [SCC Math Center website](#)

## **Dedicated Tutor (Remote tutoring)**

**We are fortunate to have a tutor dedicated exclusively to this course!** The dedicated tutor will assist students with mathematics questions and host live remote tutoring sessions. More information is provided in MOER.

## Online Tutoring through BRAINFUSE

Online and hybrid students now have access to 24/7 online tutoring via Brainfuse. You may utilize up to 6 hours of online tutoring per semester for free. To access Brainfuse, go to <https://www.scottsdalecc.edu/students/tutoring/online-tutoring>

## Academic & Student Support Services

A variety of student services can be accessed online. Services are free of charge to all registered SCC students. Refer to the SCC College Resources Student Home Page.

## Accommodation

Scottsdale Community College provides equal opportunity to qualified students. If you have a documented disability (medical, physical, learning, psychological, etc.) and wish to request disability-related accommodations to complete course requirements, contact Disability Resources & Services ([480-423-6517](tel:480-423-6517)). Course requirements cannot be waived, but reasonable accommodations may be provided based on disability documentation and course objectives.

## Student Behavior

The classroom should be an environment of respect that is conducive to learning for all students present. To help with this, the following behaviors are prohibited:

- No coarse language
- No shouting or other creation of loud sounds
- No monopolizing the instructor's time at expense of other students
- No use of electronic devices (The ringtone of your mobile device must be turned off)
- No intimidating or threatening actions (verbal)

Any egregious violations of these rules, as judged by the instructor, will invoke the following procedure:

- First offense: individual conversation between student and instructor; documentation of incident
- Second offense: meeting between student and dean before being allowed back in the classroom; documentation of incident
- Third offense: meeting between student and dean; potential suspension; documentation of incident

## Learning Tools and Your Privacy and Security

SCC utilizes a variety of software applications and web-based tools operated by third party vendors to support student learning. To allow student access to the application, site or tool, certain identifiable information may be required to establish a user name or password, and submit work and/or download information from these tools. Inherent with all internet-based tools, there is a risk that individuals assume when electing to use these tools, as they may place information at risk of disclosure.

To use learning tools responsibly, please observe all laws and the Maricopa Community College District [Student Conduct Code](#), such as copyright infringement, plagiarism, harassment or interference with the underlying technical code of the software. As a student using a learning tool, you have certain rights. Any original work that you produce belongs to you as a matter of copyright law. You also have a right to the privacy of your educational records. Your contributions to learning tools constitute an educational record. By using the tool, and not taking other options available to you in this course equivalent to this assignment that would not be posted publicly on the internet, you consent to the collaborative use of this material as well as to the disclosure of it in this course and potentially for the use of future courses.

## Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

Generative AI can be defined as “a category of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms that generate new outputs based on the data they have been trained on. Unlike traditional AI systems that are designed to recognize patterns and make predictions, generative AI creates new content in the form of images, text, audio, and more.” Some examples of generative AI tools include but are not limited to: ChatGPT, Google Bard, Microsoft Copilot, Stable Diffusion, GrammarlyGo, and Adobe Firefly.

In this class, all the work submitted must be your own. The use of generative AI tools will be considered academic misconduct (see Administrative Regulation 2.3.11 1.B(b)) and will be treated as such. If you are unsure if the tool or website you are using is a generative AI tool, please contact the instructor for further clarification before using the tool or website.

## Student/Instructor Interaction

In this course, you can expect regular and substantive interaction (RSI) that aligns with Scottsdale Community College’s mission to provide challenging and supportive learning experiences and the US Department of Education’s requirement for regular and substantive interaction (RSI) for online courses. My commitment to your success includes the following:

- Being available during regularly scheduled student support hours as stated in the syllabus.
- Sharing weekly information about the course materials, including key information, and resources via recorded, and/or text-based lectures.
- Engaging in weekly discussions about course content within discussion boards in Canvas, forums in MOER, or other discussion-based tools.
- Promptly responding to student questions about the course sent via MOER messaging.
- Regularly posting announcements about the course updates.
- Monitoring your academic progress and communicating concerns, as needed.

## Land Acknowledgment

SCC acknowledges the land on which we are situated today as the traditional land and home of two distinct tribal nations: the Onk Akimel O’odham (Pima) and the Xalychidom Piipaash (Maricopa) people. We take this opportunity to thank the original caretakers of this land. We offer our respect to their Elders and to all O’odham and Piipaash people of the past, present and future.

Students are responsible for the information contained in this syllabus, the Syllabus page in your Canvas course and the **College Policies & Student Services** page found in the First Steps module of your Canvas course. Students will be notified by the instructor of any changes in course requirements or policies.