



Course Information

- Semester and Year: Summer 2026
- Course Title: College Algebra
- Course Prefix and Number: MAT151
- Section Number: 10639
- Credit Hours: 4
- Start Date: May 26, 2026
- End Date: July 16, 2026
- Class Format: Online

Instructor Information

- Instructor: Paniz Tavassoli
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- Phone: 480-423-6015
- Office Location: CM-427
- Office Hours:
 - By appointment (Google Meet link posted in MOER): please send me an email stating time availability and topics to discuss

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 and/or Corequisites

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 Competencies

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.

General Education & Institutional Learning Outcomes

General Education provides foundational learning experiences that contribute to academic and career success. It is reflected in Scottsdale Community College's Institutional Learning Outcomes: Arts & Humanities Awareness, Career Readiness, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Effective Communication, Information Literacy, and Social Responsibility.

This course emphasizes the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students will demonstrate these skills by meeting the following institutional learning outcomes:

- 3.1 Identifies information relevant to the issue or problem.
- 3.2 Explains graphical information.
- 3.3 Demonstrates understanding of a phenomenon.
- 3.4 Analyzes data using relevant methods.
- 3.5 Solves problems or defends claims using logical or quantitative reasoning.
- 3.6 Synthesizes evidence to support a conclusion or solve a problem.

Program Learning Outcomes

Credit-bearing courses at Scottsdale Community College can count toward the completion of a degree or certificate program. Each program has Program Learning Outcomes, which are learned assets that students can claim to have acquired by completing their academic or occupational program at SCC. Program Learning Outcomes can be found on the [Degrees and Certificates page](#) of the SCC Website. For each degree, look under "What You'll Learn."

This course is a General Education course that is foundational to many degree programs and a key component of the Arizona General Education Curriculum (AGEC) certificate program. This course fulfills a mathematics requirement for the [AGEC](#) (for Liberal Arts Majors).

Texts and Course Materials

Textbook (Buying/Printing the textbook is not required): *College Algebra, Scottsdale Community College Edition, Jay Abramson*

Textbook Content, copyright 2017 Rice University
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ISBN: 978634348478

Download for free: OpenStax College Algebra Textbook

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. This syllabus is subject to change as needed to accommodate the needs of the class.

Attendance Policy

Attendance in an online course involves consistent and regular progress on course assignments. This is not a self-paced class. Refer to the Calendar in MOER for the assignment submission schedule. Students that fall **one week behind** the Calendar schedule may be withdrawn from the class without notice. Additionally, **Students who miss the first exam may be withdrawn without notice.**

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 after the refund date, it is your responsibility to complete the appropriate procedure by the designated deadline to receive a “W”. If you wish to withdraw beyond this deadline, you will need my signature and may receive a “W”. **I am unable to assign a “W” after July 5th**, in accordance with college policy. **This policy is non-negotiable.** The last date for a guaranteed W grade in this course can be found at: <https://www.scottsdalecc.edu/academics/dates-deadlines>

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).

- 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 complete the Unit 1 Online Test by the due date 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.
- 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.

Computer Access and Email

- You will need regular access to a computer (with Internet access) in order to complete the online assignments that are part of this course.
- You are responsible for completing all assignments on time regardless of any computer or internet issues that may occur.
- 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.

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.

Instructional Contact Hours and Minimum Course Expectations

Instructional contact hours are the weekly time students spend directly learning with their instructor or course activities. These activities include, but are not limited to, lectures, discussions, labs, group work, and viewing recordings. Instructional contact hours vary by course; refer to the [MCCCD course bank](#) for your course's details.

This is a 4 credit-hour course in 8 weeks. Students should expect to spend a minimum of 24 hours each week working on the required online assignments. Students are encouraged to use the [Time Management Calculator](#) to help estimate their weekly time commitment for classes.

Assignment types

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.**

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 24 hours. 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 assignment has been created for the 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. Arrangements for the Testing Center or ProctorU must be made by the instructor **at least one week in advance** of the scheduled exam.
- All exams must be completed in order to earn a grade (A, B, C, D, or F) for this course.
- **Make-up Policy:** Students who miss an exam deadline may take the exam up to 2 days late, but they can only earn a maximum score of 70%. **Past this deadline, the assigned grade will be 0%. There will be no make-up exam offered for the final exam.**

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. You will also need to know your MOER username and password to access our class.*

Option 2: SCC Testing Center (Free) or Other Community College Testing Centers

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 or a certified testing center or college near you (fees apply) 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. **You should contact me at least one week in advance and provide the reason, along with any supporting documentation, to be considered for this option.** Please note that ProctorU is a third-party company, and I am unable to assist with technical or account-related issues that may arise while using their service. Additionally, VPN services may not work properly with the ProctorU platform.

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](#)

Course Technologies

View the [Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies](#) of the technologies used in this course. The [SCC Help Desk](#) provides students with a primary point of contact within SCC for college-supported technology services and technical assistance.

Maricopa Systems

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

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

Synchronous Communication Tools

This course implements the use of web conferencing and/or other synchronous course tools.

- Google Meet
- Microsoft Whiteboard

Streaming Media/Audio/Video Tools

This course uses YouTube. Instructor office hours will be conducted through Google Meet.

Student Assignment Tools

This course requires students to participate in or submit assignments using desktop or cloud-based applications.

- TI-83 or TI-84 Graphing Calculator - A Graphing calculator is required for this course. Videos in the course that use a calculator always use a TI-83 or TI-84 calculator so either is highly recommended.
- Textbook - Links to download/print/view are available in the course.
- View the Accessibility Statements & Privacy Policies of technologies used in this course.

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 or meet with the instructor)
- Headphones or working speakers connected to the computer (only if the student needs to take an exam online or meet with the instructor)

Accommodation for Online Proctoring

If you have approved DRS accommodations, they still apply during online proctored exams (e.g., ProctorU or MonitorEdu). Some setups may need advanced coordination, so please contact your instructor as soon as possible to ensure everything is in place.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

The World Economic Forum defines generative AI 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 Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, Stable Diffusion, GrammarlyGo, and Adobe Firefly.

No Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Allowed

In this class, all 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.

Grading Standards and Practices

Grade Scale

Letter Grade	Points Range
A	91 – 100%
B	81– 90.99%
C	71 – 80.99%
D	61 – 70.99%
F	0 – 60.99%

Assignments

Assignment Name	Percent of Grade
Online Assignments (Orientation Quiz, Video Lessons, Homework, Review Assignments)	20%
Online Tests	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%

Grading Policy

Grades in this course are calculated strictly based on the points you earn. *I do not add extra points, round up, or adjust grades at the end of the semester under any circumstances.* This policy is **non-negotiable**. Please note that I reserve the right not to reply to emails requesting changes to grades or exceptions to this policy. Students are encouraged to monitor their progress throughout the semester and take advantage of available resources early to ensure their success.

Grade disputes must be resolved within 7 days of an assignment being graded. Once those 7 days have passed, the grade will not be reviewed. To protest a grade, send a message in MOER. **No late work or grade disputes will be accepted during or after the last week of class. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Exam scores are non-negotiable and extra-credit is not offered in this course. Final course grades are calculated using the scale listed in the syllabus and are non-negotiable. It is unethical for a student to request their final percentage be rounded up to earn their desired grade.

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 office hour appointments as stated in the syllabus.
- Sharing weekly information about the course materials, including key information, explanations, examples, and resources via in-person, recorded, and/or text-based lectures.
- Providing group or individual feedback regularly on assignments.
- Promptly responding to student questions about the course sent via email, MOER messaging, or the Canvas inbox.
- Regularly posting announcements about the course content and activities.
- Monitor your academic progress and communicate concerns, as needed.

Response Time

Students can expect the instructor to respond to messages within 24 hours Mon-Thurs and 48 hours Fri-Sun. Messages that don't adhere to the "Netiquette" Rules posted in MOER will not receive a response. Online lessons, homework, quizzes, and exams will be graded immediately in MOER. The grades will be available after the due date. I will not respond to any emails regarding this course after **July 16th**, as this aligns with the department's policies.

Tutoring

SCC's tutors are available online to help with your courses. You may work with an SCC tutor remotely using Google Meet, your phone, or email. Visit the [Tutoring & Learning Centers](#) page for detailed information on the five learning centers' hours and procedures.

If you need to work with a tutor outside regular hours, online and hybrid students now have access to a 24/7 online tutoring service called Brainfuse. To access Brainfuse and begin working with a tutor, visit the [SCC Online Tutoring Services Through Brainfuse](#) page.

MCCCD Policies

MCCCD is committed to providing a safe, fair, and accessible environment for all students. This includes laws such as the ADA and Title IX, which protect against discrimination. These statements explain your rights, available support, and where to go for help or more information. Please review the following policies:

[Classroom Accommodations for Students with Disabilities](#)

[Addressing Incidents of Title IX Sexual Harassment](#)

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.

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.

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.