

Syllabus

Course Information

- Semester and Year: Fall 2026
- Course Title: College Algebra
- Course Prefix and Number: MAT151
- Section Number: 18713
- Credit Hours: 4
- Start Date: Sep 8, 2026
- End Date: Dec 18, 2026
- Room Number: Online
- Meeting Days: On Your Own Time
- Meeting Times: On Your Own Time
- Class Format: Online

Instructor Information

- Instructor: Paniz Tavassoli
- Email: paniz.tavassoli@scottsdalecc.edu
- Phone: 480-423-6015
- Office Location: CM-427 Here is a link to the [SCC Campus Map](#)
- Office Hours:

In-Person Office Hours in CM-427:

- Mondays 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM
- Tuesdays 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM and 1 PM - 2:30 PM
- Wednesdays 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM
- Other days and times by appointment

Virtual Office Hours via Google Meet:

- Thursdays 9:30 AM - 11 AM
- Other days and times by appointment

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

Pre-requisites: 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.

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
Cover design copyright 2019 by Premium Source Publishing
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 November 23, 2026**, 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: [Dates and Deadlines | Scottsdale Community College](#)

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.

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. This statement serves as the first warning regarding academic integrity and cheating.

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.

Minimum course expectations include the number of hours students are expected to spend outside of class (weekly) completing coursework. 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 question. **The computer will keep the highest of the two scores.**

Late Passes

If you miss an assignment deadline, you may apply for 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 are 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. **The links to the Midterm and Final Review Assignments will become available only after you have earned the required 5 points on Where Will You Take Your Exam Assignment.**
- 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 MonitorEDU. Arrangements for the Testing Center or MonitorEDU must be made by the instructor **at least one week in advance** of the scheduled exam.
- **Make-up Policy:** Students who miss **Midterm exam** deadline may take the exam up to 1 day 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 are posted in MOER. Bring your calculator, pencils, erasers, and photo ID with you when you come to take these Exams. ***You 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 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 MonitorEDU (Fees apply)**

Exam Proctoring Tools

MonitorEDU

Some exams in this course will have the option to be proctored using MonitorEDU, a remote proctoring service adopted by Scottsdale Community College (SCC) for online courses. This service allows you to take a supervised exam on demand. During a proctored exam, you will be monitored via your webcam, microphone, screen-sharing, and a secondary device (such as a smartphone) to ensure academic integrity. Please be aware that:

- MonitorEDU is a fee-based service
- You must meet the general and device requirements to use the service
- You will be required to scan your workspace before each testing session

Review the [MonitorEDU Student Instructions](#) before your exam to set up your devices and understand the process. Following these guidelines will help ensure a smooth and successful testing experience.

Respondus LockDown Browser and Respondus LockDown Browser with Monitor

Respondus LockDown Browser secures online exams by locking down the testing environment within Canvas. LockDown Browser prevents access to other applications and many common functions on a computer while an assessment is active. Some of the exams in this course require the use of this software. A LockDown Browser download link will be provided within the Canvas course. For further information, see the [Student Resources](#) page provided. For your

reference, read the [System Requirements for LockDown Browser](#) and [LockDown Browser Terms of Use](#).

Respondus LockDown Browser with Monitor requires a room scan prior to all testing sessions.

Accommodations for Online Proctoring

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

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.

- Canvas Learning Management System
- 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.

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

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.

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

Table 1 Course Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Points Range
A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	60 – 69%
F	0 – 59%

Assignments

Table 2 List of 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%
TOTAL:	100%

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 office hours 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 a response time of **24-48 hours** for the instructor to respond to messages sent via the MOER Messaging System or paniz.tavassoli@scottsdalecc.edu email. 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 **December 18th**, 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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) and its associated colleges are committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g. physical,

sensory, neurological, chronic illness, mental health, learning disabilities, or other health concerns). If you require accommodations for this course, please contact [Disability Resources and Services](#) (DRS) at your college.

Contact with [DRS](#) should be made as soon as possible to ensure academic needs are met in a reasonable time. Additional information can be found in the [Non-Discrimination Statement](#) and [MCCCD Non-Discrimination Policies](#).

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

Students are responsible for the information contained in this syllabus, the Syllabus page in the Canvas course, and the College Policies & Student Services page located under SCC Student Resources in the Canvas course navigation menu. The instructor will notify students of any changes to course requirements or policies.