

Syllabus

Course Information

- Semester and Year: Fall 2026
- Course Title: College Algebra
- Course Prefix and Number: MAT151
- Section Number: 18944
- Credit Hours: 4
- Start Date: Aug 24
- End Date: Dec 18
- Room Number: CM 462
- Meeting Times: 2:00 PM – 3:40 PM
- Class Format: In Person

Instructor Information

- Instructor: Patricia Dueck
- Email: patricia.dueck@scottsdalecc.edu
- Phone: 480-423-6594
- Office Location: CM429
- Office Hours: MW 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM CM 453
 - [Virtual office hours](#) are the same as above but on TTh. Please inform me via email ahead of time if you plan on attending. I often forget to turn on the computer during office hours.
 - Others 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

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. (I)
2. Define, distinguish, and interpret the relations and functions and their inverses represented verbally, graphically, numerically, or algebraically. (I-VII)
3. Evaluate functions, including composition, and solve function equations and inequalities using multiple methods. (I-VII)
4. Set up, solve, and interpret the meaning of solutions of systems of linear equations using multiple methods, including matrices where appropriate. (VIII)
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. (I-VII)
6. Model real world situations using a variety of mathematical techniques (including regression) and solve real world mathematical problems using functions. (I-VIII)

General Education & Institutional Learning Outcomes

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.

Note: Buying/Printing the textbook is not required. But having the PDF downloaded is required (at a minimum).

College Algebra, Scottsdale Community College Edition, Jay Abramson
Textbook Content, copyright 2017 Rice University
Download for free: College Algebra 2e by OpenStax

- Text Book Download or Print
 - [PDF Version](#) (free) - Click on "Download a PDF" left menu

- [Print Version](#) - \$50 no color, \$64 in color. Can be also found on [Amazon](#) or even [Walmart](#). Make sure you have the correct text.

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.

Withdrawal Policy: The last date for a guaranteed W grade in this course can be found in the [Student Catalog – Dates and Deadlines](#).

Grade of Incomplete: The grade of I is exceptional and given only to students whose completed coursework has been qualitatively satisfactory but who have been unable to complete all course requirements because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control. The grade of I may be considered only for students who have completed at least 85 percent of the total coursework requirements with a grade of C or better. The student must request an I before the end of the semester. The faculty member retains the right to make the final decision on granting a student's request for an I, even though the student may meet the eligibility requirements for this grade. If the request is approved, the faculty member will determine a deadline for which work must be completed, and the grade the student will receive if the work is not completed on time.

Class Drop: If you realize right away that this class is not for you, you will need to drop the class as soon as possible in order to receive a full refund (only at the beginning of the semester). Check the College Catalog for these important dates. You are responsible for dropping within the window to obtain a refund if you decide that is what you want to do.

Computer Access and Email Communication:

- You will need regular access to a computer (with Internet access) in order to complete assignments that are part of this course.
- You are responsible for completing all assignments on time.
- You will need a working email address that you Check Regularly. Regular class announcements and information via the email will be sent. It is your responsibility check your school email frequently.
- Response Time: Students can expect a response time of 48 hours for the instructor to respond to messages sent via email or MOER.

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.

Policy on Cell phones:

Upon starting class all cell phones and other objects of tech communication need to be turned off or muted. If there is a true emergency call/text you are expecting, let the instructor know before class. You will forfeit your attendance point if your cell phone goes off during class, you are texting during class or you are using a computer to surf the internet. Of course, with live online portion of the class this cannot be policed. However, it is the smart student who has the self-control to avoid all possible distractions, and pay attention to what is going on in class.

Note: No audio, photos or video of class, instructor or classmates are permitted unless by special request. Photos of work on the boards permitted.

Attendance Policy

- Attendance is expected.
- You are to be in class every day it is scheduled.
- You may be dropped after three absences.
- You are expected to be in class on time.
- You are expected to stay the full length of class once you come to class.
- If you have a legitimate need to leave class early, please notify your instructor before class starts.

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.

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.

- Google Meet

Streaming Media/Audio/Video Tools

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

Student Assignment Tools

- 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.

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

- Student Maricopa Gmail Account
- Canvas Learning Management System

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 meet with the instructor)

Exam Proctoring and Proctoring Tools

- Four Proctored Exams (including the final exam) will be given during the semester.
- 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.

- All exams must be completed in order to earn a grade (A, B, C, D, or F) for 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.

Some Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Allowed in Specific Circumstances

There are situations and contexts within this course where you may be permitted to use generative AI tools. In these cases, specific guidelines will be provided in the assignment details. If you are unsure if the tool or website you are using is a generative AI tool or if it is permitted on a specific assignment, please contact the instructor for further clarification before submitting your work.

Grading Standards and Practices

Grade Scale

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

Assignments

Assignment Name	Percent of Grade
HW and other quizzes, projects, etc.	20%
Midterm Exams and Final Exam (20% each exam)	80%

Assigning of Grades

Your grade is NOT a commodity; it has not been purchased with your tuition. You have the right to be graded fairly, but you do NOT have the right to any specific grade. Your grade is not a reflection of you as a person. Your grade is not a measurement of effort. Your grade is an evaluation of PERFORMANCE. This means it is dependent upon how well you demonstrate your comprehension of the subject through application and completion of the items listed above and below in this syllabus.

Course Components

Exams

- There will be four exams given during the semester (including the final). These exams will involve a mix of mechanical skills and conceptual reasoning. The best possible preparation for the exams is regular attendance and completion of assigned homework.
- Each exam is in-person, proctored and possibly part take-home, non-proctored exam to be completed over a weekend. Information regarding the non-proctored portion will be explained carefully when the first exam of this type occurs.
- There are **no make-up exams** unless you have a valid excuse accompanied with documentation or you have spoken with the instructor before the time of the exam.
- You have **one week** to complete the make-up exam and you may receive a 10% reduction in points regardless of the excuse.
- You may only make-up one exam per semester. The second missed exam will receive a grade of 0 (zero).
- Exams are never curved.
- All exams must be taken in person, in class or in the testing center

Homework Sets, Quizzes, Projects

- Homework will be assigned after each class. Students may work together on homework, but each individual student should complete and write up their own work as much as possible.
 - Homework problems are due at the beginning of class either on Canvas or handwritten in person.
 - **Two** homework assignments will be dropped at the end of the semester.
 - **No make-up homework sets of any kind are allowed.**
 - There may be group quizzes, or different kinds of individual quizzes at other times in the semester.
 - Projects are assigned in class at various times and may be completed in groups.
- Student/Instructor Interaction

Response Time

Students can expect a response time of **24-48 hours** for the instructor to respond to messages sent via the Canvas Learning Management System or @maricopa.edu email. Students can expect assignments to be graded within **two weeks** of the assignment's due date.

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.

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](#)

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 email or directly in class.

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.