



## Math 1710 Course Syllabus

### Course Title:

College Algebra

### Course Description:

College Algebra. Three credits. This course satisfies the True Blue Core Quantitative Literacy requirement and meets specific requirements for programs as outlined in the MTSU Undergraduate Catalog.

Quantitative Literacy (Quant Lit) (3 hours)

- For all catalogs 2024-2025 and beyond, this course meets the True Blue Core (TBC) curriculum requirement for Quantitative Literacy (Quant Lit). To learn more about TBC requirements: <https://w1.mtsu.edu/truebluecore/core.php>.
- For all catalogs prior to 2024-2025, this course meets the general education curriculum requirements for Mathematics (3 hours). To learn more about general education requirements for catalogs prior to 2024-2025: [https://w1.mtsu.edu/gen\\_ed/requirements.php](https://w1.mtsu.edu/gen_ed/requirements.php).
- **The TBC outcome for Quantitative Literacy:** Students demonstrate the ability to interpret, represent, calculate, apply, and analyze numerical data in a variety of settings, and will make assumptions and communicate those assumptions based on quantitative information.

### Course Prerequisites:

Two years of high school algebra and a Math Enhanced ACT score of 19 or greater or COMPASS placement.

### Instructor Information:

**Instructor:**

**Office:**

**E-mail/Phone:**

**Office Hours:**

### Attendance Policy:

Attendance is required at each class meeting. Participation in University sanctioned activities or in military duties and situations where the institution's policy on inclement weather is applicable are considered excused absences. However, non-attendance does not relieve a

student of the responsibility for work covered or assigned. The instructor will keep a record of attendance for each student.

**Required Materials:**

Textbook: *College Algebra with Modeling & Visualization*, 6th edition, by Rockswold  
Calculator: A TI-83 or TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required for this course.

**Course Purpose:**

College algebra contains mathematics topics that are widely found in non-STEM contexts. The course includes material that is both useful and expands students' understanding of mathematics beyond the entry-level requirements for college. The students' mathematical skills are fostered in the areas of mathematical modeling with applications, problem solving, critical thinking skills, and the use of appropriate technologies.

**Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course with a passing grade, the student will have:

- Enhanced mathematical and problem-solving skills.
- Applied algebraic methods to the solution of practical problems.
- Explored the capabilities of the graphing calculator to better understand algebraic concepts.
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- Developed an understanding of functions from graphical, numeric, and symbolic viewpoints.
- Developed familiarity with polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions including examples of their utility in modeling real-world phenomena.
- Solved systems of linear equations by a variety of methods, including matrix methods.
- Applied counting principles in the computation of probabilities.

**Course Requirements:**

In order to accomplish the learning outcomes of this course, the learner is required to:

- Attend class lectures
- Participate in class activities
- Read and study assignments
- Solve assigned problem sets
- Complete test, quizzes, homework, etc.
- Complete a comprehensive final exam

If you do not take the final exam, you cannot pass the course.

## Course Topics:

This course consists of selected topics from Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 in the required text, *College Algebra with Modeling & Visualization*, 6th edition, by Rockswold, including linear, quadratic, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions; analysis of graphs; linear systems; inequalities; counting principles; and probability.

## Sections To Be Covered:

| Chapter:                                                | Sections Covered:            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1: Introduction to Functions and Graphs                 | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4           |
| 2: Linear Functions, Equations, and Lines               | 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5      |
| 3: Quadratic Functions and Equations                    | 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5           |
| 4: Non-Linear Functions and Equations                   | 4.2, 4.6*                    |
| 5: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions                | 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6 |
| 6: Systems of Equations and Inequality                  | 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 |
| 8: Further Topics (Counting Principles and Probability) | 8.3, 8.6                     |

\*4.2 Polynomial Regression and 4.6 Graphing Rational Functions by Hand and Slant Asymptotes (Optional)

## Course Evaluation and Grading:

- Attendance, homework, quizzes, and projects all total to no more than 20% of the final grade.
- In-class tests all carry the same weight and total no more than 75% of the final grade.
- The comprehensive final exam accounts for 25% of the final grade. The final will only be given at the time noted below (under Important Dates) in the regular class meeting room. If you do not take the final exam, you will automatically be assigned the grade of F for the course.

## Final Exam:

The final examination is a Mathematics Department, multiple-choice, comprehensive examination given to all students enrolled in MATH 1710. Students are required to take the final examination at the official University-scheduled date and time. Official final examination dates and times are determined by class meeting time and are listed on the [University Registrar's homepage](https://www.mtsu.edu/registrar/registrar-guide/): (<https://www.mtsu.edu/registrar/registrar-guide/>).

The final examination is closed book. Students are allowed to use one 8.5"x 11" sheet of notes to the exam. Students must provide their own note page. Examination pamphlets and scratch paper are provided by the exam proctor.

Unexcused absences for the final examination result in a course grade of F.

MATH 1710-D (online sections) requires a proctored final examination to be taken at the MTSU Testing Center or an approved alternate testing site. Individual instructors may require additional proctored assessments.

Note: Students are required to bring the following materials to the final examination: (1) a large scantron, Form No. 4521, (2) a TI 83 or 84 Plus graphing calculator, (3) a #2 pencil, and (4) an 8.5" x 11" page of notes.

**Grading Scale:**

| Percentage | Grade |
|------------|-------|
| 90 – 100   | A     |
| 80 – 89    | B     |
| 70 – 79    | C     |
| 60 – 69    | D     |
| Below 60   | F     |

Incomplete grades are given rarely and only in extenuating circumstances. Page 56 of the MTSU [Undergraduate Catalog](#) states: "The grade I indicates that the student has not completed all course requirements because of illness or other uncontrollable circumstances, especially those which occur toward the end of the term. Mere failure to make up work or turn in required work on time does not provide the basis for the grade of "I" unless extenuating circumstances noted above are present for reasons acceptable to the instructor." Please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for the complete Incomplete Grade Policy.

**Tentative Test Dates:**

**Test 1:**

**Test 2:**

**Test 3:**

**Test 4:**

**Final Exam Time and Date:**

**Important Dates:**

Last Day to drop without a grade:

Last Day to drop with a W:

**Math Tutoring Lab (MTL):**

Math tutoring for this course is available as a free service to MTSU students. More information is available at <http://mtsu.edu/math/students.php#tutoring>.

**Academic Integrity/Misconduct:**

Please review the [information on Academic Integrity and Misconduct](#). Academic integrity is a hallmark of Middle Tennessee State University. We expect students to present original work for all academic assignments turned in for credit and appropriately credit all sources used.

Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to:

**Plagiarism:** The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper attribution. This includes self-plagiarism, which occurs when an author submits material or research from a previous academic exercise to satisfy the requirements of another exercise and uses it without proper citation of its reuse.

**Cheating:** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. This includes unapproved collaboration, which occurs when a student works with others on an academic exercise without the express permission of the professor. It also includes purchasing assignments or paying another person to complete a course for you.

**Fabrication:** Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

Going online and using information without proper citation, copying parts of other students' work, creating information to establish credibility, or using someone else's thoughts or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment is academic misconduct. If you have a question about an assignment, please ask me to clarify. All cases of academic misconduct will be reported to the Director of Student Academic Ethics and may result in failure on the test/assignment or for the course. Students guilty of academic misconduct are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions (including suspension from the university), which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an "F" or zero for an activity or to assign an "F" for the course. Students accused of plagiarism will be immediately reported to the Director of Student Academic Ethics.

### **Drop/Withdrawal Policy and Dates:**

Please note the Drop Policy and Withdrawal Procedures as they are stated in the Current Registration Guide. A grade of "I" will be given only in accordance with University Policy. No grade of "W" will be assigned after the official drop date except in situations involving extreme extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control. In particular, a "W" will not be granted merely because the student is failing. Students should be aware that missing the official drop date and thereby receiving an "F" can have ramifications on financial aid.

### **General Conduct in Class:**

The instructor has primary responsibility for control over all classroom behavior and can direct the temporary removal or exclusion from the classroom of any student engaged in disruptive conduct or conduct which otherwise violates the general rules and regulations of MTSU.

### **Lottery Scholarship Policy:**

Do you have a lottery scholarship? To retain the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship eligibility, you must earn a cumulative TELS GPA of 2.75 after 24 and 48 attempted hours and a cumulative TELS GPA of 3.0 thereafter. A grade of C, D, F, FA, or I in this class may negatively impact TELS eligibility.

If you drop this class, withdraw, or if you stop attending this class you may lose eligibility for your lottery scholarship, and you will not be able to regain eligibility at a later time. For additional Lottery rules, please refer to your Lottery Statement of Understanding form (<http://www.mtsu.edu/financial-aid/forms/LOTFOD.pdf>) or contact your MT One Stop Enrollment Counselor (<http://www.mtsu.edu/one-stop/counselor.php>).

### **Students with Disabilities:**

Middle Tennessee State University is committed to campus access in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Any student interested in reasonable accommodations can consult the [Disability & Access Center \(DAC\)](#) website and/or contact the DAC for assistance at 615-898-2783 or [dacemail@mtsu.edu](mailto:dacemail@mtsu.edu).

### **Title IX**

Students who believe they have been harassed, discriminated against or been the victim of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking should contact a Title IX/Deputy Coordinator at 615-898- 2185 or 615-898-2750 for assistance or review [MTSU's Title IX website](#) for resources. MTSU faculty are concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are legally obligated to share reports of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking with the University's Title IX coordinator to help ensure student's safety and welfare. Please refer to [MTSU's Title IX website](#) for contact information and details.

### **Mental Health:**

As a college student, you may experience a range of challenges and issues that can interfere with your physical and mental well-being, hinder your academic experience, and negatively impact your daily life. Some of these experiences may include overwhelming depression/sadness, anxiety, high levels of stress, use of alcohol/drugs, difficulty sleeping, difficulty concentrating, and/or loss of motivation. These challenges and issues can lead to thoughts of self-harm and suicide. If you or any of your classmates are experiencing these issues, it is important to reach out and ask for help. Discuss your situation with a friend, a family member, your instructor, or an academic advisor. Remember: Everyone struggles. It's okay to talk about it. Ask for help. YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

### **The True Blue Pledge:**

As a member of this diverse community, I am a valuable contributor to its progress and success. I am engaged in the life of this community. I am a recipient and a giver. I am a listener and a speaker. I am honest in word and deed. I am committed to reason, not violence. I am a learner now and forever. I am a BLUE RAIDER. True Blue!

Find us on Social Media:

