Please see our course’s Blackboard (https://blackboard.olemiss.edu/) for instructor contact information and office hours. On Blackboard, students will also find a course calendar showing what is covered in class each day, as well as due dates for all assignments.


COURSE DESCRIPTION
This is a 20-module course in Algebra; coursework and testing are entirely online. Topics include linear, quadratic, higher-order, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic equations. Other topics consist of linear inequalities, rational inequalities, the algebra of functions (including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions), the graphs of some of these functions, and systems of equations in two variables.

COURSE COMPETENCIES – STUDENTS WHO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE MATH 121 WILL BE ABLE TO:
• Simplify, add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational expressions, as well as simply complex rational expressions.
• Solve linear, rational, and radical equations in one variable.
• Solve quadratic and higher order polynomial equations using a variety of methods; graph these functions.
• Write the equation of a line in various forms, as well as find slope, intercepts, and graph linear equations.
• Evaluate, combine, compose, and find inverses of functions; determine the domain of a function.
• Divide polynomials using long division and synthetic division.
• Find equations of vertical, horizontal, and oblique asymptotes of a rational function.
• Solve linear, polynomial, and rational inequalities in one variable.
• Solve logarithmic and exponential equations; solve application problems with exponential functions.
• Set-up and solve systems of equations in two variables using the substitution and elimination methods.

OBJECTIVE MODULES
Algebra is not a spectator sport; it requires active participation and repetitive PRACTICE. You can “study,” you can “review,” and you can watch someone do examples; however, above all else, you must PRACTICE. The objective modules that have been created are intended to prepare you for tests. They are VERY useful and powerful tools, as the tests will be built from these assignments. It is suggested that you do ALL of them not just for the points that they contribute to your overall grade, but also to maximize your test scores!
• There are 4 goups of modules (one group for each test) counting as 10% of your overall grade.
• There is also a minimum progress goal that must be met each week counting as 10% of the overall grade.
• Please see the course calendar for due dates. Deadline is 11:59pm.
• Questions will be similar in format to the examples in class.

PRACTICE TESTS
A practice test will be created for each of the tests as well as for the final exam. Like objective modules, these practice tests are VERY useful and powerful tools. Each test will be built directly from its respective practice test (practice tests are built directly from the objective modules). It is suggested that you work EACH of them prior to the actual test. In addition to gaining essential practice, you will receive EXTRA CREDIT based on your practice test scores.
• There will be a total of five (5) practice tests during the semester.
• Please see the course calendar for due dates/times.
• Practice tests are untimed (you should time yourself to get used to a clock—about 90 minutes should be the max).
• Questions will be similar in format to the examples in class and the topics in the objective modules.
• Practice tests can be completed at the location of your choice (Home, JAC Lab, Library, Weir Hall, etc.).
• You have an unlimited number of attempts for each practice test, with only your best score recorded.
• Practice tests must be submitted by the posted deadlines to receive credit.
• Your practice test average can add up to a total of five (5) percentage points to your overall course grade.
There will be four (4) tests during the semester.
Sales will have a one-hour (60 minute) time limit.
Please see the course calendar for modules covered and dates.
Questions will be similar in format to examples in class, topics in the objective modules, and the practice tests.
Tests will be taken in ALEKS in the Jackson Avenue Center Mathematics Lab only.
You must arrive at the correct answer to receive credit; partial credit will only be awarded in rare circumstances.
Each test will count as 14% (for a total of 56%) of your overall grade.
If a test is missed for ANY reason, a grade of zero (0) will be given.
THERE ARE NO MAKE-UP TESTS GIVEN FOR ANY REASON.
Any student who must miss a scheduled test due to an official University function must reschedule and take the test at a time BEFORE the test is scheduled to be given (this includes the final exam). NO OTHER rescheduling will be allowed. Signed documentation on University letterhead is required.
The lowest of the four test grades will be replaced with final exam grade at the end of the semester if and only if the final exam grade is higher.

FINAL EXAM
- There will be a comprehensive final exam in this course.
- The practice final will be built from the four tests, and the final will be built from the practice final.
- There will be a two-hour (120 minute) time limit on the final exam.
- The final will be taken in ALEKS in the Jackson Avenue Center Mathematics Lab only.
- You must arrive at the correct answer to receive credit; partial credit will only be awarded in rare circumstances.
- The final exam will count as 24% of your overall grade (38% if higher than the lowest test grade).

ATTENDANCE POLICY
It is the philosophy of both the Department of Mathematics and the University that regular class attendance is conducive to learning and mastering the material, and as such, we suggest attending each and every class; however, we realize that this is an unrealistic expectation of some students. The attendance policy for this class is as follows:

- Students are allowed a cumulative total of five (5) absences without penalty.
- Students who accumulate more absences than allowed will have one (1) percentage point deducted from their final average for each absence above the limit.
- There is no such thing as an “excused” absence, other than having to miss class for an official University function.
- If you must miss due to an official University function, then you must inform the instructor beforehand, and documentation must be provided by the convening authority.
- It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that their attendance record is correct.
- This class meets twice a week (either M/W or T/Th) for a fifty (50) minute lecture.
- Classes do not meet on the second day of classes (Wed or Thu) of test weeks.
- Note: Students who do not attend within the first two weeks of the semester may be dropped from the roll!

Attendance will be taken by scanning your student ID card on one of the scanners in the classroom. Students must make sure that the screen says “Scan Successful” when they scan their ID. Keep in mind that the scanner beeping does not give any indication on whether or not a scan was successful. Students may scan in no earlier than 10 minutes before and no later than 5 minutes after class starts. Students are only allowed to scan for themselves. Scanning for others, as well as scanning and leaving prior to class being dismissed are considered to be attendance fraud. If you are not going to be able to stay for an entire lecture, then do not scan in. Random checks will be made to ensure that physical attendance matches the scan log. Attendance (and identity) fraud is a form of academic dishonesty (cheating). Academic dishonesty charges will be filed with the Academic Discipline Committee against students engaging in fraud. Students can view their absences and scan logs at attendance.olemiss.edu.

JACKSON AVENUE CENTER MATHEMATICS LAB (JAC)
• The Mathematics Lab is located in Room A01 of (to the left after you enter the main entrance) the Jackson Avenue Center complex on Jackson Avenue (the Malco complex).
• All quizzes and final exams must be taken at the JAC Mathematics Lab. In addition, the lab is open to students for homework, practice quizzes, general studying, and tutoring (except during testing periods).
• The lab is for math coursework only; no other work is allowed! This includes coursework for other classes, email, internet browsing, cellphone conversations, or texting. You will be asked to leave if you violate these rules.
• Please see http://mathlab.olemiss.edu/ for more information about the Math Lab.
• The Jackson Center parking lot is one of the "Park and Ride" lots. This means that students with other parking decals (such as dorm/fraternity/sorority decals) will not be able to park at the Jackson Center until after 5pm. UPD will give tickets if students with other decals park in the lot before 5pm.
• If you do not have a commuter or park & ride parking sticker, you may utilize the OUT Shuttle (Brown Line). Please see http://www.oxfordms.net/visitors/transit/bus-routes-a-schedules.html. The Brown Line runs every 5-10 minutes between Bates and Paris-Yates Chapel. Other stops are Guyton Hall and the ROTC building.
• Each student is required to bring his or her Ole Miss ID card to the lab. Students are required to scan in with their cards upon entrance to and exit from the lab (except for testing) so that their times are recorded in the computer system. It is the responsibility of the student to scan in and out properly. Students must pick their class on the scanner screen after scanning their id card. You must scan for each entry/exit—including restroom breaks, checking phone, etc.
• Absolutely no cell phones, laptops, or food are allowed in the Math Lab!
• Math Lab Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-7:00pm; Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

TESTING AT THE JACKSON AVENUE CENTER MATHEMATICS LAB
• Students in Math 121 will take all tests and final exams in ALEKS in the Mathematics Lab at the JAC.
• Tests will run on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday on test weeks during regular lab hours.
• In order to take a test, students must schedule an appointment. The lab will not accept walk-ups. TEST scheduling is done at http://ummathlab.appointy.com/.
• Note that you must use your olemiss.edu email address when you register.
• For assistance with scheduling/rescheduling, email: mathlab@olemiss.edu.
• In order to avoid disturbing other test takers, students MUST be on time for their appointment (10 minutes early would be better). If a student is more than 5 minutes late, their appointment will be cancelled and they will not be allowed to enter the lab. The student will then have to go back to appointy and reschedule their test.
• Test 1: Wednesday-Friday, February 14-16, covering modules 1-5.
• Test 2: Wednesday-Friday, March 7-9, covering modules 6-10.
• Test 3: Wednesday-Friday, April 4-6, covering modules 11-15.
• Test 4: Wednesday-Friday, April 25-27, covering modules 16-20.
• The final exam will be available Mon-Fri of finals week (May 7-11), and the hours of availability will be announced at a later date. The final exam will cover all sections above.
• Cell phones must be checked with the lab attendant prior to entering the testing area.
• Tutoring will be available Wed-Fri on test weeks in the Hume 326 Math Lab (10-6 on Wed/Thu & 10-5 on Fri). No tutoring will be available at JAC during test weeks!

CALCULATORS
You will be provided a TI-30XS Multiview calculator for tests. NO OTHER calculator may be used during testing. Calculators will be available to use in the lab for homework, practice tests, and tutoring if you need one. It is suggested that students familiarize themselves with one of these calculators before taking the first test.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES
Cell phones, laptops, pagers, and other electronic devices shall be silenced and stowed during lectures. The instructor reserves the right to remove any student caught using these devices during a lecture.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
The following statement is the policy of the Department of Mathematics regarding cheating:

**Offenses:** Cheating on any exam or quiz, theft or attempted theft of exam questions, possession of exam questions prior to the time for examination, the possession of a cell phone, or the use of a personal calculator on tests shall all be offenses subject to appropriate penalties. Furthermore, the presence of any mathematics (review tests, etc.) during tests shall be subject to the appropriate penalty.

**Penalties:** The penalty for commission of any offense set out above is a zero (0) on the exam in question, and a recommendation of failure in the course to the Academic Discipline Committee. Furthermore, if you are found guilty of cheating, then the penalty could also include, subject to the approval of the Chancellor, dismissal or suspension from the University. Please note that any grade of zero (0) given for cheating will not be replaced if the Academic Discipline Committee does not follow the recommendation of course failure.

**WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE**
Friday, March 2\textsuperscript{nd} is the course withdrawal deadline. After the Course Withdrawal Deadline, courses dropped will be recorded on University records, and the W grade will be recorded if the student is not failing the course at the time of withdrawal; otherwise the grade recorded will be an F. After the course withdrawal deadline, a student may drop a course only in cases of extreme and unavoidable emergency as determined by the academic dean; dropping a course after the deadline will not be permitted because of dissatisfaction over an expected grade or because the student is changing his or her major.

**SPECIAL NEEDS**
It is the responsibility of any student with a disability who requests a reasonable accommodation to contact the Office of Student Disability Services (915-7128) in 234 Martindale Center. SDS will then contact the instructor through the student by means of an “Instructor Notification of Classroom Accommodations” form. The instructor will then be happy to work with the student so that a reasonable accommodation of any disability can be made.

Important Note: If you receive accommodations for tests you must provide a copy of the “Instructor Notification of Classroom Accommodation” form not only to your instructor, but also to the Jackson Center Mathematics Lab. A mailbox at the main desk is provided for submitting these forms. Ask the desk worker if you need help submitting the form. To receive accommodations on tests, the forms must be submitted to the Mathematics Lab no later than 5:00pm on the Friday before a test week begins.

**OTHER NOTES**
- If a student wishes to discuss the grading policy, the testing policy, or wishes to have any conversation regarding the instructor of the course, please make an appointment with the course supervisor in the Department of Mathematics.
- An "I" grade will not be given without the permission of the Department of Mathematics.

**A LAST WORD**
- Keep up! You will need to be comfortable with the material from the beginning of the course to be successful in the end.
- It is suggested that you work on the modules prior to class to get an idea of the material to be covered on a given day.
- Make use of all of the resources provided within ALEKS and on Blackboard.
- You can stop by anytime during my office hours or email me to set up an appointment at another time. Help will be much more effective if you know what it is that you don’t understand, and if you bring your attempts at specific questions from lecture or from ALEKS!
- When communicating via email, please include your course and the days/time your class meets.
- All emails will be answered within one (1) business day. I reply to emails at various times throughout the day, but I generally do not reply after 5:00 p.m. (nor on weekends).

**OVERALL GRADE**
The following scale will be used to determine your overall grade (a perfect score in this course is 104 with max bonus):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A−</td>
<td>88 – 89.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86 – 87.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 – 85.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B−</td>
<td>78 – 79.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76 – 77.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 – 75.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C−</td>
<td>68 – 69.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60 – 67.999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where Test Avg. = (Add the 4 highest of the Tests and Final Exam) ÷ 4

Percentage = 0.56*(Test Avg.) + 0.10*(Objectives) + 0.10*(Progress Goals) + 0.24*(F. Exam) +0.05*(Practice Test Avg.)

Please note that there will not be a curve, nor will there be any “grade bumps” in this course!