

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE
Common Course Syllabus
MATH 0300

COURSE TITLE: Introductory Algebra
SECTION, CLASS DAYS & TIME: Section 003, MWF; 12:30pm-1:45pm
CLASSROOM: FH 201

INSTRUCTOR: Alex McKay Hardison
INSTRUCTOR'S Office: FH 202
INSTRUCTOR'S PHONE #: (432) 837-8119
INSTRUCTOR'S E-MAIL: ahardison@sulross.edu (or use the ALEKS system).
INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday/ Thursday: 9:30am-12:00pm

CREDIT HOURS: 3
LECTURE HOURS: 3

PLACEMENT: THEA: a score of 219 or lower; **COMPASS:** a score of 25 or lower on the algebra component

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

MATH 0300 Introductory Algebra (3-0). This course is designed for students whose score on an approved assessment instrument does not meet minimum requirements on the mathematics portion of the assessment. Topics included in this course are algebraic operations on real numbers, the solving of equations and inequalities, basic operations with polynomials, simple graphing techniques, critical thinking skills, and college readiness skills. Credit in this course cannot be used to satisfy requirements for any degree. Students must earn a grade of C or better to progress to the next level math course.

SOFTWARE: ALEKS (You must purchase an ALEKS access code by class time no later than the 2nd class day)
ALEKS Tech Support: Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM • 714-619-7090 • <http://support.aleks.com>
ALEKS Course Code: RPLAH-X3DFG

SUPPLIES: Three-ring Binder and dividers or spiral with dividers and notebook paper; pencils only in classroom.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing this course, the student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

- (1) Demonstrate skills with fractions and decimals;
- (2) Verify equivalent fractions, decimals, and percentages; apply skills to analyzing percentages;
- (3) Generalize algebraic operations on real numbers and apply properties of real numbers;
- (4) Verify equivalent expressions and generalize to algebraic operations;
- (5) Apply skills and properties for solving equations and practical problems;
- (6) Apply linear graphing techniques
- (7) Apply basic geometric formulas; generalize to practical geometric concepts.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Your grades will be earned according to the following percentages:

- A= 90-100%
- B= 80-89%
- C= 70-79%
- F= 69% and below

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Homework: 20%
Weekly quizzes: 20%
Tests: 25%
Intermediate objectives: 35%

ACCELERATION:

You determine how quickly or slowly you complete the work associated with this course. The sooner you complete your developmental math placement, the better off you will be, so please feel free to work hard and quickly. You may complete your pie, and then take the mid-term and final exams for MATH 0300. If you pass these exams, I will convert your ALEKS program to MATH 0301 and you can start work on that course. If you complete the MATH 0301 pie, you may take the mid-term and final exams for MATH 0301 as well.

ACADEMIC ETHICS:

Please remember that real success comes from learning how to do the work yourself. I believe that you are an honest individual and expect that all of the work that you do results from your own efforts. You know that a college education costs too much for you to waste your time trying to beat the system rather than figuring out how to learn the material. You know that any form of cheating is dishonest and it makes you look very bad. I will have specific responses to any academic dishonesty that I may encounter. A repeated instance of academic dishonesty may result in your situation being forwarded to the Dean of Student Life. Please see the *SRSU Student Handbook* for a more complete discussion of academic honesty.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Sul Ross State University and the State of Texas require each student liable for any portion of the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) to attend and participate in developmental coursework. If you fail to attend and/or participate, you will earn an “F” for the course. Also, it is a course requirement that you take the mid-term and final exams. Failure to do so will result in your earning an “F” for the course.

If you must be absent, you are responsible for finding out what was covered and assigned in class in order to be prepared when you return to class. According to the University catalog, “When a student has to miss class due to an authorized university activity, it will be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor of the class in advance [and to complete all assignments] within a reasonable time and at the convenience of the instructor.”

If you are absent from class, you will want to contact a classmate and get the notes that you missed.

Class Member: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Class Member: _____

Phone #: _____ E-Mail: _____

Being more than five minutes late or leaving before class is over will be counted as an absence!

CELL PHONES:

Cell phones going off during class are disruptive. Be a considerate class member. Turn off your cell phone before class begins and keep it turned off throughout the class period. If you feel that you have an emergency situation that requires your phone being left on, speak with your instructor before class. Should you fail to silence (including the “vibrate” function) your phone, you risk being counted absent.

COMPUTER USAGE – the computers are for math only. Do not use them for any other purpose even before/after class; doing so can/will cause you to be counted absent. I do however allow you to listen to music so using an mp3 player or having a music site running in the background is fine. If you do not have access to a computer or internet, you can use the Academic Learning Center (Ferguson 213). You can also use library room 211 (if no class is in there, ask a worker). Saying you did not have access to ALEKS will not be a valid excuse for not doing homework!

Food/Drinks – Do not bring your lunch to my class; you’re expected to eat before/after coming to class. Drinks must have a cap and must be capped at all times.

COURSE COMMITMENT:

You will make the decision about how long it takes you to clear your developmental math requirement. Please keep these thoughts in mind:

1. Your registration in this course is the result of *your* math test scores and, at this time, those scores do not indicate that you could be successful in a college level math class. We want you to be successful in your college level math class, so learn everything that you can in this class.

2. It costs as much to take this class (at least \$650) as it does to take any other SRSU three-hour course. Yet you know that this course does not count towards your degree. You will save a lot of money and time if you decide to clear your developmental math requirement as quickly as possible.
3. You are the only one who can make the commitment to be successful in this class. You will decide how much time you spend doing homework, asking your instructor questions, and visiting with a tutor. So come to class and complete this course with a grade of "C" or better this semester.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE:

Tutors are available in the Academic Learning Center, Ferguson Hall 213, free of charge. Please check with the Academic Learning Center for hours and days of tutor availability.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

If you have a disability and need an accommodation, you should contact the Counseling and Accessibility Center located in Ferguson Hall, Room 112 (432-837-8203). You are responsible for presenting to the instructor any accommodation letter(s) and instructions.

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI) ADVISING:

As a developmental education student, you have a TSI hold on your records. In order for you to register for the next semester, you must see a TSI advisor in Lobo Den. Lobo Den is located in Lawrence Hall, Room 102 and their phone number is 432-837-8982.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Weeks 1-3

Week 1:	Whole numbers
Week 2:	Whole numbers; quiz on whole numbers; fractions and proportions
Week 3:	Fractions and proportions

Weeks 4-6

Week 4:	Fractions and proportions;
Week 5:	Fractions and proportions; quiz on fractions, etc.
Week 6:	Decimals and percentages;

Weeks 7-9

Mid-term exam to be taken in week 7 -9; exact date to be announced.

Week 7:	Decimals and percentages;
Week 8:	Decimals and percentages; quiz on decimals and percentages
Week 9:	Simple probability; quiz on probability;

Weeks 10-12

Week 10:	Variable expressions; Geometry
Week 11:	Quiz on variable expressions; Equations and graphs
Week 12:	Equations and graphs

Weeks 13-15

Week 13:	Equations and graphs
Week 14:	Equations and graphs; Geometry
Week 15:	Review; final