

MATH 082 Alternative Format:

Beginning Algebra

Instructor Information

Name: _____ Office: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Office Hours: _____

Learning Environment

Classes will meet in a designated computer lab, currently in Z214. This alternative format is taught as an interactive course emphasizing in-depth understanding. Each class period will begin with a small lecture on the day's topics by your professor, followed by in-class work on the covered material. The students will work on their assignments with the help of in-class tutors and the instructor. In-class assignments may include instructor-created assignments on the material, as well as the associated MyOpenMath homework assignments, which students are expected to complete online outside of class.

The course catalog for SVSU suggests that for every credit hour taken, students need to study approximately two additional hours every week. If mathematics is difficult for you, you may need to spend even more time on homework and study.

When speaking during a class meeting, be respectful and considerate of both the instructor and your fellow classmates. Come to class ready to work and build a community of learners with your peers.

Course Materials

1. **Text:** This course is built using the topics from the following OER texts
 - a. *Prealgebra*, Second Edition by Marecek, Anthony-Smith, and Mathis
<https://openstax.org/details/books/prealgebra-2e>
 - b. *Elementary Algebra*, Second Edition by Marecek, Anthony-Smith, and Mathis
<https://openstax.org/details/books/elementary-algebra-2e>
2. **Binder:** I recommend using a binder for this course to keep notes, worksheets, and handouts organized.
3. **Calculator:** A scientific calculator is needed for this course. Graphing calculators are not allowed.

Calculator Policy

No calculators are allowed to be used on tests 1 and 2. Only scientific calculators are allowed to be used on Test 3 and the Final Exam.

Course Description

Introduction to sets, axioms, factoring, first and second-degree equations, and inequalities, graphs, exponents, and radicals. Not applicable to General Education requirements and/or minor requirements.

To graduate, every student must satisfy the University's Basic Skills requirements. A student placed into MATH 082 will receive a letter grade based on the University grading scale to reflect their performance in the course. The course grade will appear on the student's transcript, but it is not factored into the official SVSU GPA (neither the semester GPA nor the cumulative GPA). The letter grade of Math 082 may potentially affect students in two ways:

1. Athletics eligibility
2. Financial aid and SAP (satisfactory academic progress)

Students who have questions about these guidelines should talk with Campus Financial Services.

Places to Get Help

1. **Office Hours:** Students are encouraged to take advantage of office hours in order to supplement in-class instruction.
2. **Math & Physics Resource Center (MPRC):** Located on the second floor of Zahnow Library. For current hours visit [Math & Physics Tutoring](#). Or contact the MPRC at (989) 964-4648 or email mathtutor@svsu.edu.
3. **Dedicated Tutor:** A dedicated tutor for this course will be available in class and via email to help you navigate the course.

Grading and Evaluation

Homework: Homework will be done using MyOpenMath through Canvas and can be completed on your own. These have unlimited attempts by the given deadline of the homework set. The homework problems are algorithmic and provide detailed practice for each topic. All homework sets are due by **11:59 PM on the due date**. Homework can be completed after the due date with the use of a late pass, but there will be a 30% penalty.

Formative Assessment: Formative assessments will be given most weeks at the beginning of the week. These will be completed in class, allowing you to reflect on the course.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given most weeks at the end of the week. These will be completed in class and take 10 - 15 minutes to complete.

Instructor Points: The instructor will provide you with more details on this category.

Tests: There will be three unit tests. They will be in class and on paper tests. Notes and electronic devices are not allowed on any of the tests. Students must score 70% or greater to pass a test and move on. A student who scores lower than 70% on a test **MUST** consult with the instructor to determine a study plan and retake the test; otherwise, a score of 0 will be given. If a retake is given, the higher score is used with a maximum of 90%. No retakes are allowed for tests after the final exam.

Final Exam: The Final Exam is comprehensive, and everyone **MUST** take the final exam. No exceptions! Notes and electronic devices are not allowed on the final. The final exam can be taken only once; after the final, a student CANNOT retake any tests for credit.

Test Reviews: The MPRC will also have review sessions during the weeks of tests and the final exam. There will be 5 bonus points for attending each session.

Attendance: Regular class attendance is **MANDATORY**, and a student will obtain an 'F' grade if they have more than **four** unexcused absences. To make an absence excused, the student must immediately contact the instructor and make up the missed work within the instructor-provided deadline.

Evaluation Method	Percent of Total Grade
MyOpenMath Homework	15%
Formative Assessments	3%
Quizzes	6%
Instructor Points	10%
3 Tests	36%
Comprehensive Final Exam	30%

Course grades are based on the following scale (p = percent in class):

Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade	Percent	Grade
$93\% \leq p$	A	$83\% \leq p < 87\%$	B	$70\% \leq p < 77\%$	C
$90\% \leq p < 93\%$	A-	$80\% \leq p < 83\%$	B-	$60\% \leq p < 70\%$	D
$87\% \leq p < 90\%$	B+	$77\% \leq p < 80\%$	C+	$p < 60\%$	F

A grade of "C" or better (minimum of 70%) must be earned to satisfy the Math 082 requirement and to enter a course with a MATH 082 prerequisite.

Academic Integrity Policy

All students are expected to abide by the University Honor Code. In mathematics classes, violations of the honor statement include copying another person's work on any graded assignment or test, collaborating on a graded assignment without the instructor's approval, using unauthorized "cheat sheets" or technical devices such as calculators, cell phones or computers for graded tests or assignments, or other such infractions.

See the following link for SVSU's academic integrity policy:

<https://www.svsu.edu/studentconductprograms/academicintegrity/academicintegritypolicy/>

Disability Statement

Students with disabilities that may restrict their full participation in course activities are encouraged to meet with the instructor or contact the SVSU Office of Accessibility Resources and Accommodations, Wickes 260, (989) 964-7000, for assistance.

Non-Discrimination Statement

SVSU does not discriminate based on race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical impairment, disability, or veteran status in the provision of education, employment, and other services.

Land Acknowledgment Statement

At Saginaw Valley State University, we recognize that we are located on the ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabe, Wyandot, and Sauk. We specifically acknowledge the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and the land ceded in the Saginaw Treaty of 1819, on which we reside. We appreciate the importance of preserving and honoring the traditions of Indigenous People, who are an integral part of our shared history. As we pledge to serve as responsible stewards of the land, we endeavor for this history to inform our teaching, scholarship, and our commitment to community.

Tips for Success

Math is not a disjointed list of facts and formulas that should be remembered. Math is interconnected. When confronted with a new mathematical problem, you should identify what is new about this problem and what is based on concepts you already know. If you have forgotten these concepts, then go back and review. In fact, time should be spent every week reviewing old material. As you go through this course, create a structured review sheet. This review sheet should not just list things you should know. It should indicate how any particular part of mathematics relates to other parts of mathematics.

If you are struggling, get help right away. Ask your instructor for help when they go over homework in class. See your instructor outside of class. Get help from a friend. Go to the Math & Physics Resource Center.

If you are planning on taking a subsequent math course (or if you have to take this course again), then take that course as soon as possible while your mathematical skills remain fresh.

Important Dates

Last day to withdraw “Without a grade”: Friday, August 30th, 2024

Last day to withdraw “With a W grade”: Friday, November 8th, 2024

Tentative

The instructor reserves the right to revise, alter, and/or amend this syllabus as necessary. Students will be notified in writing and/or by email or canvas announcements of any such revisions, alterations, and/or amendments.