

SYLLABUS FOR MATH 1050-090 - COLLEGE ALGEBRA (ONLINE)

SPRING 2020

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Matteo Altavilla

Pronouns: he/his/his

What to call me: Matteo will do

Office: JWB 221 (JWB is on President's circle, east of Kingsbury Hall)

Email: altavilla@math.utah.edu

COMMUNICATION: You may contact the instructor by e-mail or through Canvas-mail. When e-mailing your instructor, please include “1050” in the subject line. All announcements for the course will either be posted in quiz format on the Canvas website (these are graded) or sent by Canvas-mail.

OFFICE HOURS: There will be in-person office hours twice each week. No appointment is necessary to come to office hours. **I will not be available for office hours the first two weeks of the semester for personal reasons, but I will be available via email and Canvas messages.**

- **Wednesdays 10:00am-11:00am** in JWB 221
- **Fridays 11am-12 pm** in JWB 221

I am also happy to schedule office hours by appointment. **In-person office hours will be held starting Wednesday, January 22nd.**

ONLINE OFFICE HOURS:

- **Mondays 4-5 pm. Online office hours will be held starting Monday, January 20th.** If at least one student is attending online office hours, they will continue on Mondays at 4 pm after this; if students are not attending, then online office hours will switch to be by appointment. Whether hours are continuing or by appointment will be announced in weekly announcements.

Participating in one of these is similar to making a Skype call while watching a math video. To attend, go to conferences in Canvas. You need speakers. If you have a microphone, you can ask questions; if not you can type them.

ALTERNATIVE MEETINGS: If the times above are not convenient for you, contact me about setting up a meeting or office hour at an alternative time.

COURSE INFORMATION:

Math 1050, College Algebra is a 4-credit semester course.

PREREQUISITES:

The prerequisite for this course is at least a C (preferably a B) in mathematics 1010 or its equivalent, an Accuplacer CLM score of 60 or better, or an ACT score of at least 23. Students are expected to already have the basic algebra skills.

Important Note: The mathematics department DOES enforce prerequisites for all undergraduate courses. If you were able to register for this class based on your enrollment in the prerequisite course last semester and you did not receive the minimum grade in that course to enter this class, then you will be dropped from this class on Friday of the first week of classes. If you are in this situation, it is in your best interest to drop yourself from this class and enroll in a class for which you have the prerequisites before you are forcibly dropped.

WEEKLY WORKLOAD:

This is an online course, but still an intense course. According to the University of Utah, a 4-unit course should have about 4 hours of lecture and 8 hours of outside study/homework time. This means that our online course, will take the average student about 12 hours per week. (In the summer when we complete the semester in 12 weeks instead of 15, students should plan to spend about 14 hours on this course per week!) Some students will be able to get by on less, and some student will need more.

Each week, we cover specific sections. You can choose when you work on the material in the week, keeping your objective and topic goals in mind, but you can't complete the course at your own pace.

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS IN AN ONLINE COURSE:

Most course announcements will be posted in announcement quizzes on Canvas. You are expected to take the course information quizzes at the start of the course, the weekly quizzes at the start of each week, and the exam-related quizzes when posted. In between announcement, I will send updates and reminders by e-mail in Canvas. You should check your Canvas mail approximately every 2-3 days, including late Wednesday or early Thursday (when I will send out e-mails if students need to resubmit quizzes.)

IS ONLINE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Before committing to this course, consider whether the online format matches your learning style. To aid in this, please look at: [A: Online?](#)

DATES:

Weekly Due Dates:

- Online HW due each Tuesday on Canvas (IMathAS) at 11:59pm,
- Quiz every Tuesday night (upload file in Canvas) at 11:59pm.

Exams (Schedule at a time between the dates below):

- Exam 1: (first half of this class's Week 6) Wed 2/12 – Sat 2/15
- Exam 2: (first half of this class's Week 12) Wed 4/1 – Sat 4/4
- Final: There are two options:
 - Alternative Final: (reading day/Saturday before final's week) 4/22-4/25
 - Common Final: 4/28 1pm-3pm, on U of U main campus, location TBA

Other dates:

- Drop/audit date: Fri 1/17
- Withdraw date: Fri 3/6

GRADING: Grades are calculated as follows:

- Announcement Quizzes (2%),
- Weekly Quizzes (14%),
- Online Homework Assignments (14%),
- Midterms (40%)
- and Final (30%).

The lowest 5 online HW scores and the lowest 2 quiz scores will be dropped at the end of the term.

A score of 73% is required for a C, which is the prerequisite to take the next class. You should monitor your course grade throughout the semester by looking at "Grades" in Canvas. At the end of the semester, the "current grade", not the "final grade" is used to determine the course letter grade.

The grading scale is:

A	93% - 100%	C+	77% - 79.9%	D-	50% - 59.9%
A-	90% - 92.9%	C	73% - 76.9%	E	below 50%
B+	87% - 89.9%	C-	70% - 72.9%		
B	83% - 86.9%	D+	66% - 69.9%		
B-	80% - 82.9%	D	60% - 65.9%		

COURSE MATERIALS:

COURSE WEBSITE:

Canvas <https://utah.instructure.com/> Since you are taking this quiz, you have found this site. It is a good idea to save this address, so that you can get to Canvas without going through CIS. Usually once or twice a term, CIS goes down, so the alternative access is useful.

TEXT:

The course uses Math1050 College Algebra (Edited, 2018) A Partnership Between Institutions in USHE. You can access the text for free in Canvas.

ONLINE HOMEWORK:

The homework can be accessed in Canvas. It is free.

RECORDED LECTURE VIDEOS:

They are available through the modules or in both streamable and downloadable versions at

<http://www.math.utah.edu/lectures/math1050New.html>

Links to an external site.

. (It's good to save this address somewhere else, in case Canvas is down)

TECHNOLOGY:

The majority of the course work can be done without a calculator. **No calculators will be allowed on exams nor the final.** Calculators will be useful on some homework assignments and may be allowed on portions of quizzes. If you do not have a scientific or graphing a calculator, there are free calculator applications online.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, a student should be able to:

1. Sketch the graph of basic polynomials (second and third order), rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and piece-wise functions with or without transformations. Be able to identify important points such as x and y intercepts, maximum or minimum values; domain and range; and any symmetry.
2. For rational functions, identify x and y intercepts, vertical, horizontal and oblique asymptotes (end behavior), and domain. Use information to sketch graphs of functions.
3. For polynomial functions, identify all zeros (real and complex), factors, x and y intercepts, end behavior and where the function is positive or negative. Use information to sketch graphs.

4. Understand the connections between graphic, algebraic, and verbal descriptions of functions.
5. Given the graph of a function, be able to identify the domain, range, any asymptotes and/or symmetry, x and y intercepts, as well as find a rule for the function if it is obtained from a standard function through transformations.
6. Define i as the square root of -1 and know the complex arithmetic necessary for solving quadratic equations with complex roots.
7. Solve absolute value, linear, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic equations and inequalities.
8. Find the inverse of a function algebraically and graphically.
9. Perform composition of functions and operations on functions.
10. Understand sequences and be able to differentiate between geometric, arithmetic, and others such as Fibonacci-type sequences giving direct formulas where available.
11. Understand series notation and know how to compute sums of finite or infinite arithmetic or geometric series.
12. Solve systems of equations (3×3 linear) and non-linear equations in two variables.
13. Make sense of algebraic expressions and explain relationship among algebraic quantities including quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, rational, radical, and polynomial expressions, equations and functions.
14. Represent and interpret "real world" situations using quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, rational, radical and polynomial expressions, equations, and functions.

HELP:

Contacting me by my e-mail, coming into office hours, or setting up an appointment is the first way to get help. I am happy to talk about individual problems, mathematical concepts, or help you make a study/learning plan. Please seek help early in the term.

If you have a question about a HW problem, you can contact me through email/Canvas (good if it's a formatting question) or look/post in the Canvas discussion board (good for content questions/ calculation issues).

You can also get tutoring through the following:

- **Math Tutoring Center (drop-in tutoring, computer lab, group tutoring).** This is free to all students. It is in the underground passage

between JWB and LCB, Room 155. See <http://www.math.utah.edu/ugrad/mathcenter.html> for hours.

- **Private Tutoring:** University Tutoring Services, 330 SSB (they offer inexpensive tutoring). There is also a list of tutors at the Math Department office in JWB 233.
- **Computer Lab:** also in the T. Benny Rushing Mathematics Student Center, Room 155C. See <http://www.math.utah.edu/ugrad/lab.html> Links to an external site.
- **ASUU Tutoring in the evenings at the Marriott Library.** See <https://tutoringcenter.utah.edu/tutoring-services.php> Links to an external site. for details.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

Each week, we cover specific sections. You can choose when you work on the material in the week (as long as you meet deadlines), but you can not complete the course at your own pace, as there are specific due dates throughout the semester.

The course week starts on a Wednesday and ends on a Tuesday. Due dates for assignments and quizzes are on a Tuesday. This allows students to get more feedback on the last two days of the week. (So , Week 2 in our class spans the end of University Week 2 and the start of University Week 3).

Here is a breakdown of the components in the course and what they are worth.

- **Reading Announcements on Canvas.** Course documents and announcements are given in quiz format and have a short quiz about the content at the end. These "quizzes" begin with "A:..." Completing these is worth 2% of your grade. Suggested due dates are shown, but these can be completed at any time.
- **Reading** from your **text book**.
- **Watching the video lectures.** These were produced by the UofU math department. They are available in Canvas or on the math department website. If you find a video isn't addressing your questions, ask your instructor for additional resources.
- **Online Homework:** Working through problems helps you understand and master the material. Completing homework is worth 14% of the grade. The lowest five assignment scores are dropped at the end of the semester.
- **Weekly Quizzes:** There will be take-home quizzes weekly, except during exam weeks. There is a quiz in the last week of class. You can access them

on Friday (earlier by special arrangement) and they are due on Tuesdays. **See below for late policies.** You are responsible for submitting the assignment with the correct format and correct file extension. If you submit with the wrong format, the first two times you will be warned and asked to resubmit in a given window. There will be no penalty the first time and a 10 point deduction (out of 100 points) the second time. After this, submissions with incorrect format will get a 0. The quizzes are worth 14% of your grade. The lowest two quiz scores will be dropped at the end of the term.

- **Exams:** There will be two midterm exams. Each exam is worth 20% of your grade. You must schedule your exams and final through the "Schedule Exams" link on Canvas. Exams will be administered at the Uonline Exam Services testing center (in the Marriott Library), at satellite testing center in Sandy, or if you are out of area, with a proctor that you set up and register with Uonline. There will be practice material provided prior to each exam. You are not allowed to use notes, a calculator, textbook, or phones during the exam. More information about exams, including how to set up a proctor, can be found here: [A: Exams](#).
- **Common Final:** The final is comprehensive and worth 30% of your grade. All the students in Math 1050 at the University of Utah take the same common final at the same time, including online students. However, if you are an online student and unable to be at the common final due to the time or location, you are allowed to take an alternative final exam at the testing center or with a proctor at an earlier time. See the exact dates above.
- **Extra Credit:** Extra credit, worth up to 3-6% or more of your course grade, can be earned for participating in online discussions (by asking or answering questions with significant mathematical content), or by spotting errors in course materials. See [A: Extra Credit](#) for details.

EARLY POLICY:

- You can start homework early at any time.
- You have a 5-day window to complete quizzes. If you have special circumstances, you may request them up to two-days earlier than this. Please request this at least 48 hours before you would like to access the quiz.
- You can also take exams up to a week early, upon well-planned request. Please let me know at least 7 days before you wish to take the exam.

COMMENTS ON THE LATE POLICY

You are expected to turn things in on time. It is your responsibility to maintain your computer and related equipment in order to participate in this online course. Equipment failures will not be an acceptable excuse for late or absent assignments. Similarly, it is your responsibility to start assignments early enough, so that even if you are in traffic, your flight gets delayed, you are called into work, your run out of ink, you do work for another class, etc., you still have time to deal with the situation and then finish the assignment.

However, because things may happen that will prevent you from turning in assignments on time, this course provides multiple types of accommodations. First, the five lowest HW and two lowest quiz scores are dropped at the end of the semester. You may turn in quizzes late, but with a penalty. You may not turn in HW late, which is why more assignments are dropped.

THE LATE POLICY FOR HW:

Assignments will not be reopened, except in extreme situations (see below). However, you can practice problems in assignments that are past due by using the "review mode" feature.

LATE POLICY FOR QUIZZES:

You should submit the quiz in the same Canvas assignment where you download it. If the quiz is uploaded under the wrong assignment, it will be disregarded completely. If the due date is not before an exam week, you can submit the quiz up to 2-days late. If the quiz is late, it should send it by e-mail instead of being uploaded in Canvas. **Do not** send by email if not late.

- There is a 10 point penalty for sending it by e-mail before Tuesday, 11.59 pm. You get this penalty, even if you send it before the due-time. This is because it is more time consuming to get into Gradescope when sent this way.
- There is a 20 point penalty for submitting it between Tuesday 11.59pm and Wednesday 11.59 pm
- There is a 30 point penalty for submitting it between Wednesday 11.59pm and Thursday 11.59 pm.
- Quizzes will not be accepted after Thursday, 11.59pm as solutions will be posted automatically at that time..

LATE POLICY FOR EXAMS:

You have a multi-day window to take exams. It is recommended that you complete these during the middle of the window, in case something arises at the end which would prevent you from completing them.

EXTREME SITUATIONS

If you have an extraordinarily severe situation, contact me, your instructor. We can discuss waiving penalties, granting longer extension periods for HW, excusing quizzes, extending exam dates, etc. Send documentation if possible. If not possible, still contact me to discuss alternatives.

COMMUNICATION IN AN ONLINE COURSE

Discussion threads, e-mails, and chat rooms are all considered to be equivalent to classrooms, and student behavior within those environments shall conform to the Student Code. Specifically:

- Using angry or abusive language is called "flaming", is not acceptable, and will be dealt with according to the Student Code.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles, since it is the equivalent of shouting online, as is overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points !!!! and question marks ?????.

CENTER FOR DISABILITY & ACCESS

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. You have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, collusion, fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know you are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee. <http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php>

[Links to an external site.](#)

PREFERRED NAME AND PRONOUN

Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name as well as "Preferred first name" (if previously entered by you in the Student Profile section of your CIS account). While CIS refers to this as merely a preference, I will honor you by referring to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in correspondence, discussions, in office hours and on assignments, etc. Please advise me of any name or pronoun changes (and update CIS) so I can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun will be respected. If you need assistance getting your preferred name on your UIDcard, please visit the LGBT Resource Center Room 409 in the Olpin Union Building, or email bpeacock@sa.utah.edu to schedule a time to drop by. The LGBT Resource Center hours are M-F 8am-5pm, and 8am-6pm on Tuesdays.

ADDRESSING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office

of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

WELLNESS STATEMENT

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or 801-581-7776.

SAFETY STATEMENT

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu

[Links to an external site.](#)

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