

Math 980-91, Summer 2020
Algebra for College Success
Instructor: Anna Schoening

COURSE INFORMATION:

Math 980, Algebra for College Success, is a noncredit course.

Math 980-91 is an online section. There are no required class meeting times. Students will be provided with materials in Canvas including videos, notes, homework, quizzes and discussions. There are weekly deadlines. There are two proctored exams and one proctored final.

PREREQUISITES:

If your Math ACT score is below 14, please speak with me immediately!

For the School of Business, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences*, College of Education*, Colleges of Science, Engineering, Mines & Earth Sciences and Architecture + Planning*, students should have a current Math ACT score between 14-17, or on the Accuplacer an EA \leq 53.

For the Colleges of Humanities, Fine Arts, Nursing Health, Social Work, Social & Behavioral Sciences* and Architecture + Planning, students should have a current Math ACT score between 14-18, or on the Accuplacer an EA \leq 59.

*Multiple QA options are available or do not follow this specific pathway. Meet with your academic advisor to verify which courses will work best for you.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

For both quality learning and proctored testing, you are required to have access to the following equipment:

- **internet** (in order to access course materials and take exams):
- a **webcam on your computer or camera on your phone** (this is necessary for taking exams in Zoom; it is useful for online meetings):
- a **scanning device** (smartphones can be used as scanning devices) which is different than the device you are using for your exams.

The following are recommended, but not required:

- a **microphone** (used for online meetings);
- a **printer** (if you don't have one, you will need to make hand-written templates);
- A scientific **calculator**

TEXTBOOK

All coursework will be available through Canvas. The textbook, indicated as Explanation and Examples, is available as the student progresses from module to module. During the first week of school, the student will learn how to log into the coursework and work through the curriculum. Video Lessons and Practice, Homework, and Quizzes were created in OHM – an Open Resource Material. The videos and text were developed mainly by James Sousa of Phoenix Community College. Students can download and print the text (Explanation and Examples) for every section.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course includes algebra topics such as: linear equations; graphing; systems of linear equations; linear inequalities and absolute value; exponential and logarithmic functions.

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

1. Students will demonstrate competency in:
 - solving linear equations; basic power equations; linear inequalities; and systems of linear equations in two variables;
 - graphing linear equations; linear inequalities; and systems of linear equations in two variables;
 - solving and graphing absolute value equations and inequalities;
 - solving and graphing exponential and logarithmic functions;
 - solving applications related to the above topics;
2. Students will develop confidence and comfort in dealing with mathematical concepts.
3. Students will develop concise analytical thinking and problem-solving skills that can be applied in their daily lives.
4. Students will demonstrate the ability to incorporate all of the above skills by communicating and presenting a detailed solution to a multi-faceted real life challenge.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Anna Schoening

Pronouns: she\her\hers

What to call me: Anna

Office when campus is open: JWB 124 (JWB is on President's circle, east of Kingsbury Hall)

Email: anna@math.utah.edu

COMMUNICATION: You may contact the instructor by e-mail or through Canvas-mail. When e-mailing your instructor, please include “980-91” 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.

ONLINE OFFICE HOURS: There will be two online office hours each week. No appointment is necessary to come to office hours.

- Mondays from 12-1 pm
- Wednesdays from 9:30-10:30 am
- Thursdays from 3-4 pm

Online office hours will be held in Zoom. A link will be posted and/or sent out in Canvas. You can connect by internet or by phone.

Some semesters online office hours are well attended. Other semesters, they are not. If after 3 weeks there has been low attendance at online office hours, they will switch from being held weekly to being held when students indicate that they will attend.

ADDITIONAL ONLINE MEETINGS: If the times above are not convenient for you, contact me about setting up an online meeting or office hour at an alternative time. Also, if campus reopens, we may be able to meet in-person. I will announce this if it becomes an option.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU:

Contacting me by my e-mail, coming to online 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.

CANVAS DISCUSSION BOARDS

- Please post questions and answers. Your classmates are often the faster and most knowledgeable people to respond! If something is urgent, send me an e-mail too.

TUTORING HELP

- **UofU Math Tutoring Center ("drop-in" online tutoring).** The math center offers online tutoring. You can find more information here: <https://utah.instructure.com/courses/613503/>

EQUIPMENT HELP

- The UofU has a laptop and mobile hotspot loan program – laptops, mobile hotspots mailed to current U students on a first-come, first-served basis. You can find out more information about this through this link: <https://union.utah.edu/covid-19/>

GENERAL HELP, IN PARTICULAR IN LIGHT OF COVID-19

Here is information from the University about logistics in light of COVID-19. There is also information about financial assistance, counseling, the food pantry, and much more.

<https://coronavirus.utah.edu/#students>

WEEKLY WORKLOAD:

This is an online course, but still an intense course. According to the University of Utah, our course should have about 4 hours of lecture and 8-12 hours of outside study/homework time during a 15-week semester. In the first session of the Summer, we complete the semester in under 6 weeks instead of 15, so students should plan to spend about 30-40 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 announcements, 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 messages about the new week's information.)

IS ONLINE RIGHT FOR YOU?

Most semesters, we recommend that students consider whether an online course will work for them by looking at A: Online? In Summer 2020, we know there are fewer choices, however it is still very important to think about whether you have the motivation and time to be successful in this course.

DATES:

Weekly Due Dates (see late policy later in syllabus):

- Online HW due each Tuesday at 11:59pm
- Quiz and Reality Check due every Tuesday at 11:59pm (except the first Tuesday, as there are 5 quizzes and 5 reality checks total)

Exams:

Students are asked to fill out polls found in the Week 1 module to determine the exam times and dates. Exam dates and times will be set in Week 2 of the course.

- Exam 1: (start of this class's Week 3) Wed 5/27 – Th 5/28
- Exam 2: (start of this class's Week 5) Wed 6/10 – Th 6/11
- Final: Wed 6/17 (can be taken as early as the Monday before by special arrangement)

Other dates:

- Drop date: Thurs 5/14
- Last day to withdraw: Fri 5/29

GRADING:

The grades will be calculated as follows:

- Announcement Quizzes 2%
- Weekly Homework 10%
- Reality Checks 5%
- Quizzes 13%
- Module Reviews 5%
- Midterms 1 & 2 40% (20% each)
- Final Exam 25%

The grading scale is:

A	93% - 100%	C+	77% – 79%	D-	60% - 62%
A-	90% - 92%	C	73% – 76%	E	below 60%
B+	87% - 89%	C-	70% – 72%		
B	83% - 86%	D+	67% – 69%		
B-	80% - 82%	D	63% – 66%		

A score of 50% or higher must be obtained on the final exam for a student to receive a grade of “C” or better in the course.

COURSE MATERIALS:

COURSE WEBSITE:

Canvas <https://utah.instructure.com/>. 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:

All coursework will be available through Canvas. The textbook, indicated as Explanation and Examples, is available as the student progresses from module to module. During the first week of school, the student will learn how to log into the coursework and work through the curriculum. Video Lessons and Practice, Homework, and Quizzes were created in OHM – an Open Resource Material. The videos and text were developed mainly by James Sousa of Phoenix Community College. Students can download and print the text (Explanation and Examples) for every section

RECORDED LECTURE VIDEOS:

Recorded lecture videos are available through the modules.

CALCULATORS:

For exams, you will be allowed to use a scientific calculator, provided you show clear and precise work on every problem on the midterms and the final exam in order to receive full credit for correct answers. No graphing calculators, cell phones or devices with Internet connectivity may be used on any exam.

BREAKDOWN OF 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 cannot 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 Tuesdays. 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 more detailed description of both graded and non-graded aspects of this course.

- **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 before the final.
- **Reading** from your **text book**.
- **Watching** the **video lectures**. They are available in the Canvas modules. If you find a video isn't addressing your questions, ask your instructor for additional resources.
- **Weekly Online Homework:** Working through problems helps you understand and master the material. Completing homework is worth 10% of the grade. You may turn in up to 8 homework sections up to one week late without any penalty. All homework must be completed by the last day to take the Final Exam.

The homework exercises are the required minimum for you to demonstrate the learning objectives of the course and the mastery of the course concepts. You are encouraged to work more homework exercises than those assigned. Homework questions are designed to reset after the 3rd attempt, so you have an unlimited amount of homework problems. Regular practice is

essential in learning mathematics. Most students find the more homework they practice, the better they do on the exams.

- **Reality Checks:** There will be a Reality Check assignment every week. These are intended to help you practice applying the recent material in a real-world example. There are 5 Reality Check assignments, that are worth a total of 5% of your grade.
- **Quizzes:** There will be quizzes every week. You can access them on Wednesday (earlier by special arrangement) and they are due on Tuesdays. The quizzes are worth 13% of your grade. There are 5 quizzes. If you are unhappy with any quiz grade, you are allowed to retake each quiz once.
- **Module Reviews:** There are 5 Module Reviews that are intended to help you check your understanding of material and to help you review for exams. The Module Reviews are worth 5% of your grade. They are due on the day before our Final Exam, although it is recommended that you complete the applicable review material before each exam.
- **Exams:** There will be two midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. The midterm exams are worth 20% each, and the final exam is worth 25%. Exams will be given in Canvas and proctored through Zoom. A time and date will be set for each exam in the second week of classes, based on class polls. For the exams you will need a camera (web cam or phone cam) and a separate device for scanning. You are allowed to use a scientific calculator. You are not allowed to use any computer or online resources (including math sites and online calculators), notes or books, or to communicate about the exam with other humans. Not following these rules is considered academic misconduct and will be penalized as such.
- **Extra Credit:** Extra credit, worth between 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 have a 7-day window to complete each quiz and Reality Check and a 7 (or more)-day window to complete homework. Under 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 homework, quiz, or Reality Check.
- You can take exams up to a week early, with a well-planned request. Please let me know at least 7 days before you wish to take the exam.

LATE POLICY FOR HOMEWORK:

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, you 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, you are allowed to turn in up to 8 sections of homework up to one week late without any penalty. All homework must be completed by the last day to take the Final Exam.

LATE POLICY FOR EXAMS:

You have a multi-day window to take exams, with the exception of the Final Exam. It is recommended that you complete these during the beginning or 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 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:

- Posting photos or comments that would be off-topic in a classroom are still off-topic in an online posting.
- Disrespectful language and photos are never appropriate.
- Using angry or abusive language is not acceptable, and will be dealt with according to the Student Code. The instructor may remove online postings that are inappropriate.
- Do not use ALL CAPS, except for titles or overuse of certain punctuation marks such as exclamation points !!!!! and question marks ?????
- Course e-mails, e-journals, and other online course communications are part of the classroom and as such, are University property and subject to the Student Code. Privacy regarding these communications between correspondents must not be assumed and should be mutually agreed upon in advance, in writing.

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

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>.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT. It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups. In addition, if any my meetings or entire due-date windows conflict with your religious events, please let me know so that we can make arrangements for you.

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, which managed can be managed at any time). 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 class or on assignments. Please advise me of any name or pronoun changes so I can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun are respected. If you need any assistance or support, please reach out to the LGBT Resource Center. https://lgbt.utah.edu/campus/faculty_resources.php

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

UNDOCUMENTED STUDENT SUPPORT. Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.

STUDENT VETERANS. If you are a student veteran, the U of Utah has a Veterans Support Center located in Room 161 in the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. Please visit their website for more information about what support they offer, a list of ongoing events and links to outside resources: <http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/>. Please also let me know if you need any additional support in this class for any reason.

DISCLAIMER. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus to better suit class needs at any time during this semester. Any changes that are made will be immediately communicated during class and via Canvas.