Math 1314 College Algebra

I. Professor Contact Information:

Professor: Dr. Vinh Dang

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Office Hours M/W: 1-2:20pm
T/Th: 11:55am – 12:55pm

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(best way to reach me)

II. Welcome to:

Term and Year: Spring 2020

Course Title: MATH 1314

Course Subject: College Algebra

Class Days & Times: Online

Credit Hours: Three (3) Semester Hours

Course Purpose:
College Algebra is designed to fulfill the minimum math requirements for graduation from a state four-year college and to develop the algebraic skills and concepts needed for study in future math courses.

Major Course Outcomes:
6.1 To solve other types of inequalities such as absolute value, polynomial and rational inequalities.
6.2 To review the methods for solving quadratic equations, equations in quadratic form, and radical equations.
6.3 To develop an understanding of the concept of a function including topics such as the domain and range of a function, functional notation, piecewise-defined functions, function transformations, operations with functions, even, odd functions, one to one functions, and the inverse of a function.
6.4 To study techniques of graphing functions; including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions.
6.5 To study the properties of logarithms and their applications in simplifying expressions and solving exponential and logarithmic equations.
6.6 To develop strategies for finding zeros of polynomial functions; included in this study are the Rational-Roots Theorem and the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra.
6.7 To study matrix solutions to linear equations by using reduced echelon form.
6.8 Optional: To use distance and midpoint formulas to develop equations of circles. To convert the general form of a circle's equation to standard form.

III. Getting Ready:

Prerequisites: Intermediate Algebra (Math 0310) or placement by testing or
Co-requisite: NCBO for College Algebra (Math 0314)
English 0305 or 0316 (developmental reading) or placement into college Level English by testing.
English 0307 or 0326 (developmental writing) or placement into college Level English by testing.

Required Materials:

1. **Online Textbook:** College Algebra

   Author(s): Blitzer, Pearson 7th Edition.
   Note: Students are required to purchase a MyLabMath code ONLY.

2. **MyMathLab:** This online homework system is **required**. An eBook is also included. Please refer to the registration instruction on the class website on how to register. You must registered by the end of the day on January 26, 2020.

   MyLab Math homework system is required for this class. You may be dropped from the class if you fail to register and do your homework.

3. **Calculators:** TI-30XIIS or a scientific calculator

4. **Positive learning attitudes:** take responsibility for your study, work hard, be patient, be perseverant, demonstrate professionalism and treat people with respect.

Course Websites:
http://apps.lonestar.edu/blogs/vindang/spring-2020/section-1507-math-1314-online-college-algebra/
(Syllabus, calendar, exam reviews, link to videos, etc.)
https://d2l.lonestar.edu/
(this is for the purpose of recording your grades only)

IV. INSTRUCTOR GUIDELINES AND POLICIES:

FINAL GRADE CALCULATION:

D2L Introductory quiz	1%
MyLabMath Homework	19%
3 Regular Exams	60% (3 exams @ 20% each)
Final Exam	20%

GRADING POLICY:
90 – 100: A; 80–89.$\overline{9}$: B; 70 –79.$\overline{9}$: C; 60 – 69.$\overline{9}$: D; 59.$\overline{9}$ or Below: F.
If any of your exam scores is below 50%, you cannot receive a grade of "A" for the course, no matter what your percentage works out to be.THIS APPLIES EVEN IF AN EXAM SCORE IS REPLACED BY THE FINAL EXAM SCORE. Thus, if you miss any exam in this class, the highest grade you can receive is a "B".

HOMEWORK:

- The homework is assigned using MyLab Math to provide you with valuable online resources and immediate feedback.Work on the homework for a section immediately after we cover that

section in class. The due date for each homework assignment is posted on MyLab Math and on the class calendar. You are responsible for knowing which assignment is due when and complete the assignment before the due date.You must complete each homework assignment by the due date. Otherwise, you will receive a zero. **There will be no extensions or make-up to any of the homework assignments under ANY circumstance. This is absolutely non-negotiable.** For example, if you wait until the due day to work on the assignments and the mylab system is closed for maintenanceon that day, you will NOT get an extension.

- I do understand that unforeseeable events can occur; hence, your lowest 3 homework scores will be dropped when grade is calculated. Moreover, see the section on Extra Credit.
- **In general, MyLabMath HW Due at 11:59 pm the day before the final deadline to take a test!**
- The only way to learn mathematics is to DO mathematics. The homework is designed to help you understand the essential material and develop your problem solving skills. Therefore, the key to keep up with the fast pace of the course and to do well in exams is to constantly practice solving homework problems and understand all the steps, concepts, definitions and results involved in their solutions.
- Visit my office during office hours or visit the tutoring centers for help with homework problems when you get stuck. I also strongly encourage you to work in groups and collaborate on the homework assignments. However, do not simply copy the answers from your classmates, make sure you understand every step of the solutions and all the concepts involved in a problem.
- **I reserve the right to drop you if you have 4 or more zero homework assignments.**

REGULAR EXAMS/FINAL EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY FOR MATH 1314:

- You must take 3 regular exams and a final exam at a Lone Star College Testing Center or at a Testing Center approved by me. All exams are paper-and-pencil and are proctored. You must show all work on the written part of the exam. You are allowed to use a **non-graphing**, scientific calculator on the exams, you can use your own calculator or you can check out a calculator from the test proctor if you take your exam at a LSC testing center.
- No make-up exams will be given under any circumstances. You must take the exams during the exam periods specified in the course calendar.
- I understand that unforeseeable events can occur. Hence, I will replace the lowest of your exam#1-3 scores with the score you make on the final exam, provided the score on the final exam is higher than your lowest regular exam scores. If you miss an exam, you will simply have your score from the final substituted for the missing score. The following guidelines will apply:
    - The final exam will not be replaced. You must take the final.
    - If you miss 2 exams, only one will be replaced

Extra Credit:

I strongly encourage you to diligently work on the homework assignments every week. Be neat, accurate and organized and always show quality work on all the exercises in the assignments. Although all the

homework questions are online, I expect you to solve the exercises and show all your work on [roughly] 8.5" x 11" paper. At the end of each exam period, I will "pick up" your homework solutions and grade them for completion. **If your work is satisfactory, you will earn an extra 1% for your overall percentage of the class**. So in total, you can earn up to 4% for your overall percentage of the class. For your work to be marked as satisfactory, you must

- Solve the exercises and show all your work on [roughly] 8.5" x 11" paper.
- Clearly label the title of the assignment and the Question number (#) for each exercise. All your solutions must be clearly labeled and in order.
- Write all your work neatly for each exercise.
- Demonstrate that you have made serious attempts to work on ALL the exercises assigned. The answers need not be correct but you need to show substantial work on the exercises. If you miss just one exercise from an assignment, you will not get the extra credit.
- Email me (vinh.x.dang@lonestar.edu) a single PDF file of your work by the due date. Any format other than PDF will NOT be accepted. Late work will not be accepted under any circumstances. You can scan your work or use your phone and take pictures of your work and combine all the pages into a single pdf file. There are good apps for using your phone as a scanner. For Android devices try: "Google Drive" and on IOS devices (Apple) try "Scannable" by Evernote. Using these Apps make it easy to use your phone as a scanner. The PDF copy of your work that you send me MUST be legible. If I cannot read what you send, you will not receive any credit.

HOW TO EMAIL YOUR PROFESSOR:
View an Email to a Professor as a Professional Interaction:

- Begin your email by addressing your professor by title and last name, and end your email with a closing and your signature. (For example, begin by "Dear/Hi Dr. Dang" or Professor Dang. End by "Sincerely, Your Name" or "Thanks, Your Name.")
- Be clear and concise. Use correct spelling and proper grammar.
- Always use an informative subject line. Write a few words indicating the purpose of your message. Do not leave the subject line blank.
- Specify who you are and specify which class you are taking before diving into the specifics.
- Before composing an email to your professor, check the syllabus.Class policies, such as office hours, assignment details, policies on missed classes and exams, etc. are addressed in the syllabus. If something is still not clear, then by all means ask your question --- but first attempt to answer the question yourself and only write if you need further clarification.
- Do not make demands.Explain your circumstances and your needs, and ask politely for accommodation.

- Do not use your email to vent, rant, or whine. If you have a complaint, or are not happy about something, explain yourself calmly and ask if anything can be done. You may very well be frustrated about a situation, but sending an angry email will not help things. In situations like this, it is also often more helpful to talk to the professor in person rather than send an email -- particularly since tone and intent can often be misinterpreted in emails.

- Be respectful, and consider whether anything you have written might sound rude or offensive to your professor.

- Allow time for a response. Allow 24-48 hours for a professor to reply -- possibly more if it is a weekend or holiday.

BEHAVIOR:

I have zero tolerance for inappropriate and/or disrespectful behaviors, language and/or profanity during online discussions, my office hours or in email-communication. Students who engage in such behaviors will be removed from the class room or dropped from the class, depending on the circumstances. I will also remove any individual from the lectures/ discussions and/or the course who is deemed by me and/or others to be disrupting the educational process. In serious circumstances, students might be referred to the appropriate LSC offices which could result in disciplinary actions or dismissal from the college.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Successful students follow instructions. The syllabus and class calendar are the primary sources of instructions in any college course; so successful students read them carefully and refer to them regularly.
2. Successful students, those that get A's, B's, and C's, use their time wisely. The standard formula for college coursework is that every hour of class time will result in two to three hours of homework, so a three unit class will do an average of six or more hours of homework (doing homework, reading textbook, studying notes) per week. As a result, successful students plan their time wisely so that they keep up with assignments.'

3. Successful students take time to do the homework and do it on time. Mathematics can be a lot of fun when you understand what is being explained. When you are not keeping up with the class, it becomes more difficult to follow the instructor's explanation and to read the book.

4. Successful students seek assistance when needed. Go to your professor's office hours and virtual office hours, go to the MAC, form study groups and work on problems and learn the material together.

5. Successful students are neat, accurate and well organized. They always attempt to do quality work on all exercises.

6. Successful students are perseverant. An interesting characteristic of learning mathematics is that at one moment you may feel totally confused, and then suddenly the light bulb goes on and you understand the material! Some mathematical concepts take time to digest and you might find that after a few days of working some of the exercises, they finally start to make sense.

7. Successful students prepare carefully for the exams. In math courses, you show proficiency by taking exams. Study for the exams by reviewing class notes, slides, videos, examples in the book, questions and problems from your homework assignments, and review sheets.

8. Tell yourself what you have learned. As you learn new concepts, point out to yourself what you have learned so that your confidence in your mathematical ability will increase. Each mathematical concept you understand becomes another tool that you can use.

DROPPING THE CLASS:

It is my desire that no students drop the course. However, circumstances may arise which might cause you to consider that as a possibility. If so, I encourage you to talk with me. It may be that there are options available that are unknown to you. In any case, however, except for inordinately unsual circumstances or non-attendance or having multiple zero homework assignments, I will not initiate dropping a student from the course. You, the student, are responsible for ensuring that:

(a) You are properly enrolled in the course and, should you decide to,

(b) You are properly withdrawn from the course.

Link to LSC Syllabus Polices for information on
FERPA
Title IX
Academic Integrity
Academic Appeals
ADA 504/508
Emergency Procedures (and LoneStarCollegeAlert)
Concealed Carry / Campus Carry

SCAN ME

Link to NH Math Syllabus Information and Resources on

Mathematics Department
Math Achievement Center and Tutoring
Division Counselor
OTS HelpDesk
Student Course Documents
Online Videos
Student Support Material
Math Faculty Websites
Sexual Assault Prevention

SCAN ME