

MATH 143  
COLLEGE ALGEBRA

## Course Syllabus

FALL 2021

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE COURSE THAT ARE OUTLINED IN THIS SYLLABUS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO ANY INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES THAT MAY OCCUR DUE TO COVID-19.**

**1. GOALS OF THE COURSE:** The primary purpose of College Algebra is to improve your skills and competency in algebra so that you will be successful in calculus, the other math courses required for your major, and in the courses that use mathematics. Another goal is to help you develop your mathematical learning skills so that you will be more confident in future mathematical courses.

**2. LEARNING OUTCOMES:** After completing Math 143, the student should be able to:

- Solve linear equations, quadratic equations, equations that are quadratic in form, rational equations, exponential equations, and logarithmic equations [**Learn and Integrate, Clarify Purpose and Perspective**]
- Solve polynomial and rational inequalities [**Learn and Integrate, Communicate**]
- Determine the domain of polynomial functions, rational functions, root functions, exponential functions, and logarithmic functions [**Learn and Integrate, Clarify Purpose and Perspective**]
- Understand the concept of composite functions, one-to-one functions, and inverse functions [**Learn and Integrate, Think and Create, Clarify Purpose and Perspective**]
- Use synthetic division, the remainder theorem, the factor theorem, the fundamental theorem of algebra, and the intermediate value theorem to determine the zeros of polynomial functions [**Think and Create, Learn and Integrate, Communicate**]
- Sketch the graphs of basic functions using transformations including polynomial functions, root functions, absolute value functions, rational functions, exponential functions and logarithmic functions [**Think and Create, Communicate**]

### **3. REQUIRED STUDENT MATERIALS**

**MATH 143 FALL 2021 COURSE NOTEBOOK:** Must be purchased at the U of I Bookstore. Students will be required to bring this course notebook to class and to the Polya Mathematics Center.

**MyLabs ACCESS:** Students must opt-in to MyLabs through their BBLearn accounts. When registering, use the full @vandals.uidaho.edu email address.

**STUDENT COMPUTER ACCOUNT:** All students need a computer account. If you need help with your login information, go to University ITS.

**VANDAL CARD:** You will need your Vandal card in order to take an exam in the Polya Math Center and to earn “Polya Minutes” which are described in detail below.

**HEADPHONES:** Headphones are needed to listen to the video lectures at the computers.





Final Exam: 150 points

- There will be one comprehensive final exam worth 150 points.
- **The final exam will be Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 PM.** The location of the final exam will be announced during class. Students who do not take the final exam will receive an “F” in the course.
- Students should not make travel arrangements until after the last day of Finals Week.

**Total: 734 points**

Grade Component	Points for Each	Number	Total Points Possible	Notes
Homework	5	22	90	Lowest 4 Dropped
Quiz	10	11	90	Lowest 2 Dropped
Notebook Assessment	4	12	44	Lowest 1 Dropped
Polya Time	4	11	40	Lowest 1 Dropped
Test	100	3	300	
Final	150	1	150	
Total Points for Course			714	

Students have the opportunity to earn up to 10 points of extra credit: All students are allowed access to this Extra Credit Assignment. The Extra Credit Assignment will be due on Friday of the last day of the semester prior to Finals Week.

You should check your in-class notebook scores and Polya time commitment on the course web page each week to verify that they are correct.

Your course grade will be based on the total number of points that you have earned as follows:

643 points guarantees an A  
 572 points guarantees a B  
 500 points guarantees a C  
 429 points guarantees a D

When adding up your points, remember to drop your lowest non-test scores!

**5. TIMING**

In most three credit college courses the average student spends 9 to 12 hours per week to be successful in the course. In traditional courses, students spend 3 hours in a lecture and 6 or more hours working alone, usually doing homework assignments and studying. In this course, you will spend one hour in a classroom setting (attending a class meeting), and as much time as you need participating in Polya activities per week. We require that 2.5 of those additional hours be spent with us in the Polya Center where some of our best resources are available to you, but you are always welcome to spend more—many of our students report that they like to spend all their math time in the Polya Center where tutors are available. You will receive credit toward your final grade for conscientiously attending class and putting in the 2.5 hours a week in the Polya Center. Most successful Polya students report spending between 6 and 9 hours a week on math but this varies a great deal by student.

## 6. POLYA MATHEMATICS CENTER HOURS OF OPERATION

<u>Computer Lab</u>	<u>Testing Available</u>
Monday – Thursday 9:30a - 9p	Monday – Thursday 10a - 9p*
Friday 9:30a - 4p	Friday 10a - 4p*
Saturday 12n - 5p	Saturday 12:30 - 5p*
Sunday 12n - 8p	Sunday 12:30 - 8p*
	<i>(*Latest start times 90 minutes prior to closing to guarantee test completion. Best testing times are in the morning to ensure a computer.)</i>

**REVIEW SESSIONS:** There are 9 review sessions given each week. See the white board in the Polya Center or the review session schedule for times and locations.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS AND EMAIL

Announcements about the course, special sessions, changes in schedules or procedures, and so forth, will be made in your class, on the Polya web page and by e-mail. You are expected to check your University e-mail regularly.

The best way to communicate with your teacher is to speak to them in person during their office hours or when they are working in the Polya Lab. Office hours will be posted once the semester begins.

**All emails must be sent through the email form located at:** <https://sites.uidaho.edu/polyaweb/Login> .  
**Any emails sent without using this form will not be read.**

**All emails must follow standard grammar and punctuation rules.** Any email which fails to adhere to these standards will be returned to you for revision. **Emails should also follow basic email etiquette.** Any emails that violate the student code of conduct regarding respect of others will be sent to the Dean of Students as appropriate.

## 8. ACADEMIC HONESTY

Polya students are expected to maintain Academic Honesty in all their work. Collaboration is encouraged on many assignments such as homework, and tutors are available to assist you with this kind of work. However, your teacher may assign other work or quizzes that should be completed independently. Copying another student's work on any assignment, homework or quiz is considered cheating. All tests and the final exam are considered individual work and must be completed without unauthorized assistance of any kind, including the help of other students, tutors, notes, or any calculator other than the TI 30xiIS. All test materials and scratch paper are to be turned in with the test paper and attempting to bring test work out of the testing area and/or share that work with other students is considered cheating.

The University of Idaho has defined acceptable behavior in the Student Code of Conduct Article II.A-1 – Academic Dishonesty [rev. 7-98, 7-05, 7-14, ed. 7-09]. The following summarizes relevant points related to your math course:

- Because academic honesty and integrity are core values at a university, the faculty finds that **even one incident of academic dishonesty may merit expulsion.**
- **Cheating on classroom or outside assignments, examinations, or tests is a violation of this code. Falsifying Polya scan records is a violation of this code.**
- Plagiarism, falsification of academic records, falsification of records and the acquisition or use of test materials without faculty authorization are considered forms of academic dishonesty and, as such, are violations of this code.
- Instructors and students are responsible for maintaining academic standards and integrity in their classes. Consequences for academic dishonesty may be imposed by the course instructor. Such consequences may include but cannot exceed a grade of "F" in the course.

(The full text of the Student Code of Conduct may be found at <https://www.uidaho.edu/student-affairs/dean-of-students/student-conduct/student-code-of-conduct>)

## 9. ASSIGNMENT/TEST EXTENSIONS

Make up work for assignments missed because of absence will not be allowed unless an arrangement with the instructor is made prior to the absence, or in cases of medical or family emergency, in which case documentation of the emergency will be required. Documentation must be provided within **two business days** of the assignment's due date, not to exceed the Friday before final exam week. Bring appropriate documentation to your instructor during their office hours.

If ongoing illness or other circumstances fitting the catalog definition of an excused absence prevent you from bringing documentation for your absence within two business days, then each additional delay must also be documented and the documentation for the delay must be presented with the documentation for the original absence. (See University Catalog under General Requirements and Academic Procedures, section M for details about absences.)

Field trips and official student travel require preparation and notification in advance of departure. See the catalog for details.

Note that students will be granted only one extension per semester **without documentation** on a homework assignment and its accompanying weekly computer quiz. **Extensions on homework or quizzes will not be granted once you have been tested on that material.** For example, you cannot ask for an extension for the week 2 material after the first exam. Use your extension wisely. Proper documentation will always be required to make up a test or an in-class notebook assessment. **IF YOU ARE HEALTHY ENOUGH TO BE ON CAMPUS ON THE DAY THAT A TEST OR NOTEBOOK ASSESSMENT IS DUE, THEN A DOCTOR'S NOTE WILL NOT BE ALLOWABLE AS AN EXCUSE.** The deadline to request an extension is 8am the Friday before finals week, and extension due dates will not exceed 5:00 pm on the Friday before finals week, unless warranted by extenuating circumstances at Instructor discretion. A valid doctor's note will be written on letterhead from the doctor's office, will be dated and signed, contain the dates for which the student is excused, and will contain a disclaimer indicating that schools are authorized to verify the information contained in the note.

**Problems with your personal computer or internet connection are not grounds for an extension. When using a personal computer, it is highly recommended to use Firefox or Chrome as your browser.** If an extension is granted, the length of the extension will be determined by the number of days listed on the documentation.

## 10. STUDENT ACCOMMODATIONS

We are committed to accommodate students with special needs. Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have documented temporary or permanent disabilities. All accommodations must be approved through the Center for Disability Access and Resources (CDAR) located in the Pitman Center Room 127 in order to notify your instructor(s) as soon as possible regarding accommodation(s) needed for the course. Contact information:

- (208) 885-6307
- email at [cdar@uidaho.edu](mailto:cdar@uidaho.edu)
- website at [www.uidaho.edu/current-students/cdar](http://www.uidaho.edu/current-students/cdar)

## 11. ADDITIONAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

The **Office of Equity and Diversity** engages in social justice advocacy through policy implementation, programs and services that promote access and inclusion for cultural and diverse populations. We collaborate with stakeholders to develop an intentional, culturally literate and responsive community founded on respect for the individual and the collective. We are committed to ensuring bias-free, safe spaces for our entire Vandal family, to achieve our University's mission of focused and inclusive excellence.

Phone (208) 885-2468

Email: [diversity@uidaho.edu](mailto:diversity@uidaho.edu)

Website: [www.uidaho.edu/diversity/dhr](http://www.uidaho.edu/diversity/dhr)

**Counseling and Testing Center:** The Counseling & Testing Center's (CTC) staff of full-time psychologists and supervised graduate intern and practicum students offers students, faculty and staff access to a wide range of counseling services, resources and referrals.

Phone: (208) 885-6717

Email: [ctc@uidaho.edu](mailto:ctc@uidaho.edu)

Website: [www.uidaho.edu/current-students/ctc](http://www.uidaho.edu/current-students/ctc)

### **University of Idaho Classroom Learning Civility Clause:**

In any environment in which people gather to learn, it is essential that all members feel as free and safe as possible in their participation. To this end, it is expected that everyone in this course will be treated with mutual respect and civility, with an understanding that all of us (students, instructors, professors, guests, and teaching assistants) will be respectful and civil to one another in discussion, in action, in teaching, and in learning.

Should you feel our classroom interactions do not reflect an environment of civility and respect, you are encouraged to meet with your instructor during office hours to discuss your concern. Additional resources for expression of concern or requesting support include the Dean of Students office and staff (5-6757), the UI Counseling & Testing Center's confidential services (5-6716), or the UI Office of Human Rights, Access, & Inclusion (5-4285).

**12. SUMMARY OF EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT PERFORMANCE**

- Purchase notebook on or before the first day of class
- Register for software on or before the first day of class
- Complete every page of the notebook
- Complete homework as outlined in the course calendar
- Check your University of Idaho email at least one time every day
- Be on time and prepared for class and pay attention **for the entire class period**
- Bring the course notebook to class, with appropriate pages completed for the day
- **Accurately** complete notebook materials
- Attend the Polya Mathematics Center for 150 minutes (2 ½ hours) each week
- Take each computerized test three times (or until at least 90% is achieved on one of the attempts)
- Take each written test during the designated course period
- Keep track of my grades by using the grade summary sheets in this notebook
- Maintain Academic Honesty in all my work
- Fill out grade sheet at the beginning of each week

**13. SUMMARY OF EXPECTATIONS FOR INSTRUCTOR**

- Be on time and prepared for class
- Be prepared to present upcoming material and answer student questions
- Respond to emails during business hours (Note: It may take more than one day to research and respond to an email. I will check my email at least once during each business day.)
- Establish office and Polya hours
- Be available during designated office and Polya hours
- Grade notebooks and make them available for student pickup (may not be available immediately)
- Help students with math in the Polya center