San José State University

Math-08 (College Algebra)

Fall-2016

Section 01: MW 9:00am–10:15am
Section 04: MW 1:30pm–2:45pm
Duncan Hall 416

Instructor: Jeffery Cavallaro (jeffery.cavallaro@sjsu.edu)

Office: Duncan Hall 209 (the TA room)

Office Hours: MW 10:30am-11:45am, F 9am-12 noon by appointment

Texts: *College Algebra and Calculus: An Applied Approach*, Larson and Hodgkins, **2nd edition**. Make sure that you have the second edition and not the first. Since we will be using the book in class, and since this is the same book that is used in Math-71, I highly recommend that you purchase (not rent) an actual book and not rely on an eBook.

Web: We will use both canvas and webassign. All class communications, including reading assignments, homework assignments, helpful resource documents, and grades, are via canvas (sjsu.instructure.com). Webassign (webassign.com) will be used for a portion of the homework (see below). Once you are registered for the course you should be able to see the course listed on your canvas account. Each student must purchase a webassign license. Note that the "enhanced" license is not required; however, you may find the extra teaching materials that it provides helpful. The webassign class code will be distributed on the first day of class and via a canvas announcement. Once you register your license, you will need this class code to access the class.

Calculator: You are required to have a TI-83 or 84 graphing calculator. If you are buying a new one, I suggest the TI-84 Plus CE. You will also need a cable so that you can connect your calculator to a computer - you will turn in screenshots as part of your homework. The newer models use a USB cable (included in the package). The older models use a special datalink cable, purchased separately. You will also need to have the TIconnect software, available on the TI website, loaded on your computer. I have *no* problem with you checking your homework and exam answers using your calculator — in fact, I encourage it; however, answers with no supporting work will receive zero credit. *No other scientific calculators, cell phones, tablets, or computers are allowed in lieu of a TI-83/4 calculator!*

Math 8W. You are strongly encouraged to register and participate in the workshop that corresponds to this class. Math 8W is a 1 unit class (two sessions/week) where you will work in teams on problems, aided by a workshop facilitator. Although you are not required to take Math 8W, experience has shown that students who take the workshop are more successful than those who do not.

Learning Objectives. This is a preparatory class for Math-71 Business Calculus. In this course you will master basic algebra skills, understand and apply fundamental ideas about functions, and study some specific types of functions (e.g., polynomials, exponentials, logarithms). You will use mathematical methods to solve quantitative (word) problems and arrive at conclusions based on numerical and graphical data. These learning objectives, as well as the minimum 500 word writing requirement (homework and exams), satisfy the Area B4 (Mathematical Concepts) GE requirement.

Attendance: I will not take attendance after the first week; however, it is vitally important that you come (on time) to every class. The book has more information than we could possibly cover, so I will highlight in class what is important. I will also enhance certain subjects that I feel are important for your calculus preparation. Bring your book and calculator to every class meeting. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to talk to your peers and find out what you missed.

Time: You will probably need to spend a *minimum* of 10 hours per week outside of class doing homework and studying. This class is *very* intensive and will require disciplined study habits. Please, please, please do *not* register for 16 units and/or commit to a 20+ hours per week job; if you do then your chances of passing this class drop exponentially!

Holidays. Class will not meet on 9/5 (Labor Day) or 11/23 (Day before Thanksgiving). Please note that the Monday of Thanksgiving week is *not* a holiday and is a likely exam day candidate.

Reading: Reading from the textbook will be assigned each Friday for the material to be covered in the coming week. Please read everything, not just the stuff in the boxes, prior to lecture. Make sure that you can work all of the example problems prior to attempting any of the homework problems.

WebAssing Homework: The web-based homework will be submitted via webassign. Webassign requires that you format your answers with math symbols using their answer tool. Don't get frustrated! It may take a couple times for you to get the hang of it; it will get easier the more you use it. The problems assigned on webassign are even problems from the book. WebAssign homework for each chapter will be due at midnight prior to the corresponding chapter exam. There are no extensions, so please do not fall behind.

Written Homework: In addition to the web-based homework, you will be required to turn in a small set of written homework problems that I will assign approximately each week via canvas. Whereas the web-based problems are typically based on single concepts, the written homework will combine concepts and will need a little more thought. Homework will be assigned each week on Monday and is due on the following Monday at the start of class. Late homework will not be accepted; however, I will only count your top ten homework scores. See *Homework Rules* for more information.

Exams: There will be five end-of-chapter exams for chapters 0-4. We will cover part of chapter 5 as well, but the chapter 5 material will be tested as part of the final exam (see below). Each chapter exam is scheduled for one week after we cover the chapter material in class. Prior to an exam, I will post an announcement on canvas telling you exactly what to expected

on the exam. All exams are closed book and notes. A calculator (as described above) is allowed; however, as noted above, any answers without supporting work (i.e., guesses or copying an answer directly from your calculator) receive zero credit. Instead of a note card, I will provide all needed formulas, except for those that I explicitly ask that you memorize.

Final. The final exam is cumulative and is scheduled for **Saturday, 12/17, 9:45am–noon**. All sections of Math-8 are taking the same final at the same time, and the exam *must* be taken at that time. Any and all excuses must be discussed directly with the math office (MH-308). Once again, travel arrangements are not a valid excuse, so don't plan to leave town prior to noon on 12/17. The final exam follows the same rules as the exams; however, a 3×5 notecard is allowed. Sample finals are available on canvas.

Grading. Your semester grade is determined as follows:

WebAssign Homework	25%
Written Homework	25%
Chapter Exams	25%
Final Exam	25%

A+	97–100
A	93–96
A-	90–92
B+	87–89
B	83–86
B-	80–82
C+	77–79
C	73–76
C-	70–72
D	60–69
F	0-59

Credit: A grade of C or better meets the *Area B4: Mathematical Concepts* GE requirement. A grade of C- or better is required for placement into Math 71.

Tutoring: Peer tutoring is available to all SJSU students, free of charge, from the PeerConnections center. See `http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu` for more information.

Academic integrity: Your commitment to learning (as shown by your enrollment at SJSU) and SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy require you to be honest in all of your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. See `http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct` for more information.

Disabilities: If you need course adaptations or accommodations due to a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible. All students with disabilities must register with the Accessible Education Center (AEC) to establish a record of their disability. See `http://www.sjsu.edu/aec` for more information.