Math 4/4C Syllabus - College Algebra for STEM Majors

Instructor: Safaa Dabagh

Spring 2025 (February 19 - June 16, 2025)

Course Information

Course: Math 4/4C - College Algebra for STEM Majors
Section Numbers: 2509-2583
Meeting Times: Monday and Wednesday, 11:15 AM - 2:20 PM
Location: Bundy Room 221
Final Exam: June 16, 2025, 12:00 - 3:00 PM
Instructor Email: dabagh_safaa@smc.edu
Textbook: College Algebra, by Carl Stitz and Jeff Zeager; click here

Welcome Message and Course Description

My name is Safaa Dabagh- you may call me Safaa. Feel free to reach out via email or come to my drop-in hours if our class prompts you to want to learn more about Mathematics; this is my favorite part about teaching. When I'm not working, I enjoy spending time with my children Adam, Aya, Abed, Issa, and Zach!
Math 4 is intended for STEM majors and serves as a prerequisite for Math 7 (Calculus 1). Topics include:

- Algebra fundamentals, relations, functions
- Solving equations and inequalities
- Systems of equations, matrices
- Binomial theorem, mathematical induction
- Polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions
- Analytic geometry, conic sections
- Sequences and series

Math 4C is a co-requisite course reviewing core algebraic concepts.
This course can be challenging, both in terms of the breadth of the subject matter, and its complexity. Almost every student will be challenged by course material at some point in this term. I have found that students who are most successful in this course are those who attend class consistently, complete all assignments, thoughtfully review feedback, develop good study strategies, and take advantage of the academic support resources made available by the mathematics department. If you are having a hard time with course material or keeping up with the pace of the class, please do not wait until the end of the term to seek guidance. I will be in a much better position to support your learning if you seek support as soon as you are having trouble.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):

Student Learning Outcomes Math 4/4C:
1. Given a rational, exponential or logarithmic function, analyze the function and create a graph including key information such as shape, intercepts, removable discontinuities, asymptotes, and crossing asymptotes.
2. Solve equations and inequalities involving rational, exponential and logarithmic functions.
3. Given an English-language description of a mathematical, social, practical or physical situation, determine a function, equation, or inequality that models the situation, and use numerical information to solve the problem.

Diversity and Inclusion Statement

I aim to create a learning environment in which all students can learn, and I honor your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.) Every student brings different experiences that will enrich the course content and I strive to do my best to respect this diversity throughout the semester. If you have an experience related to the class that contradicts this commitment or there is an aspect of the course that could be reasonably modified to improve your learning, please contact me.

Here is a link to the Student Code of Conduct (.pdf file, AR 4410) Title IX: is a comprehensive federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally funded education program or activity: No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.
Those interested in the details can view the entire Title IX Legal Manual . Students who have experienced some form of sexual misconduct or discrimination are encouraged to talk to someone about their experience, so they can get the support they need. For more information about the support available for students, please click here. You can also call Lisa Winter, Compliance Administrator Title IX Coordinator, at 310-434-4225

Grading Policy

- Quizzes: 5%
- Homeworks: 5%
- Video Assignments: 5%
- In-Class Assignments: 5%
- Exams (4 Exams): 50%
- Final Exam: 30%

Grade Scale: A (90-100%), B (80-89%), C (70-79%), D (60-69%), F (below 60%)

Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Monday	Wednesday
1	(2/17-2/19)	No Class	Introduction, Review
2	(2/24-2/26)	Sections 1.1 - 1.2	Sections 1.3 - 1.4
3	(3/3-3/6)	Sections 1.5 - 1.7	Sections 2.1 - 2.2
4	(3/10-3/12)	Sections 2.3 - 2.4	Sections 2.5 - 3.1
5	(3/17-3/19)	Exam 1	Sections 3.2 - 3.3
6	(3/24-3/26)	Sections 3.4	Sections 4.1-4.2
7	(3/31-4/2)	Sections 4.3	Sections 5.1 - 5.2
8	(4/7-4/9)	Exam 2	Sections 5.3
9	(4/14-4/16)	No Class	Sections 6.1-6.2
10	(4/21-4/23)	Sections 6.3-6.4	Sections 6.5
11	(4/28-5/1)	Section 7.1	Sections 7.2-7.3
12	(5/5-5/7)	Exam 3	Section 7.5
13	(5/12-5/14)	Sections 8.1-8.2	Sections 8.3-8.4
14	(5/19-5/21)	Section 8.5-8.6	Section 9.1-9.2
15	(5/26-5/28)	No Class	Exam 4
16	(6/2-6/4)	Section 9.2- 9.3	Section 9.4
17	(6/9-6/11)	Review	No Class
18	(6/16)	Final Exam 12:00-3:00pm	

Campus Closed

Cesar Chavez Day (Campus Closed): Monday, 14 APRIL, 2025
Washington's Day (Campus Closed): Monday, 17 FEBRUARY, 2025
Memorial Day (Campus Closed): Monday, 26 MAY, 2025
Juneteenth Day (Campus Closed): Thursday, 19 JUNE, 2025

Classroom Policies

Attendance: Attendance is very important. You are responsible for any announcements made in class, including any changes to the schedule. A student may be dropped for excessive absences (10 % or more of the classes). If you decide to drop this class, it is your responsibility to drop officially, on line or at the Admissions Office. See the official class schedule for relevant dates.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to follow the college's academic integrity policy. Cheating or plagiarism will result in disciplinary action.

Students with Disabilities

Santa Monica College accommodates students with disabilities. If you qualify for any special accommodations due to a disability, you need to officially process your request through the Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) office as close to the beginning of the semester as possible. An early notification of your request for test-taking and/or other accommodations is necessary to ensure that your disability related needs are addressed appropriately; testing accommodations cannot be applied retroactively. More Information can be found on their website.

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus as needed.