MATH 1314 JAVALAB SYLLABUS FALL 2013

COURSE TITLE: COLLEGE ALGEBRA **CREDIT:** 3 semester hours

SECTION:		**LECTURE ROOM:**	
INSTRUCTOR:		**JAVALAB:**	**RHODE HALL 308**
PHONE:		**MATH OFFICE PHONE:**	
OFFICE:		**E-MAIL:**	
OFFICE HOURS:		**LAB HOURS:**	

ALEKS COURSE ID:

COURSE RESOURCE:

- **Required: ALEKS access code available in the bookstore (≈ $100) or online (≈ $70) at www.aleks.com**
- Optional e-book available for $10 extra cost when purchasing your ALEKS code
- **Temporary two-week access code, if necessary**:

COURSE DESCRIPTION

College-level topics in algebra including functions, graphs, variation, piecewise defined functions, equations of lines, elementary curve fitting, quadratic equations and functions, systems of linear and nonlinear equations, composition of functions, inverse functions, exponential logarithmic functions and applications related to these topics. Prerequisite**:** 2 years of high school algebra, and/or appropriate scores on mathematics placement tests, or a grade of C or higher in ALGE 0301 or MATH 0302.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of MATH 1314, the student should be able to demonstrate conceptual understanding of and basic technical competence in linear, quadratic, logarithmic and exponential functions; as assessed by mastery of at least 60% of the specific learning objectives in the course.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

- This course takes advantage of an advanced technology adapted to learning mathematics: You will take an **initial assessment** the first day of class that will determine the mathematical objectives you have already mastered, and set up the objectives you will learn during the course to fill your "pie." The objectives are in groups of about 20 topics, which should be completed by the scheduled due dates. For every 20 topics you complete, or after each ten hours of time in ALEKS, the program will prompt you to take an ALEKS Assessment. Assessments may be taken anywhere. The objective or "pie" grade is based on the percent of topics in the objective you master by the date the objective is due.
- You will meet as a class with your instructor twice a week for 50 minutes. During class your instructor will review the objective topics with which you are having the most difficulty or introduce topics you are ready to learn.
- **Tests**: There will be five tests throughout the course which together are worth 50% of the total grade, and a comprehensive final exam worth 20%. **There will be no make-up tests.** The grade on the comprehensive final will replace your lowest test grade. **Tests can be taken at any time before the due date, and must be taken in the JavALab, or under the supervision of your instructor in the classroom, if your instructor allows.**
- **Quizzes** consist of six practice tests that are available from the beginning of the course. They may be taken an unlimited amount of times before the due date and the program will record the best score. The lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the semester. Quizzes are worth 10% of the final grade.
- **ALL WORK, INCLUDING TESTS AND THE FINAL EXAM, MAY BE DONE AHEAD OF THE DUE DATES. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE THIS STRATEGY.**

COURSE GRADING:

Quizzes	6 (lowest will be dropped)	20 points each	100 points
Objectives	10	20 points each	200 points
Tests	5	100 points each	500 points
Comprehensive Final Exam	1	200 points	200 points
Total			1000 points
Atttendance		Extra credit	50 points

900-1000 pts = A (90-100%); 800-890 =B (80-89%); 700-790 (70-79%) =C; 600-690 (60-69%) =D; <600 (60%) = F

COURSE SCHEDULE AND DUE DATES:

Day	Date	Time due	Assignment due
Sun	9/1	11:59 pm	Objective 1: Review of selected algebra topics
FRI	9/6	11:59 pm	Objective 2: Review of selected algebra topics (cont.)
MON OR TUE	9/9 9/10	(before class)	Quiz Objectives 1, 2
MON OR TUE	**9/9 9/10**	**(end of class)**	**Test Objectives 1, 2**
MON	9/16	11:59 pm	Objective 3: Equations and inequalities
MON	9/23	11:59 pm	Objective 4: Absolute value inequalities/ quadratic, rational, radical equations
WED OR THU	9/25 9/26	(before class)	Quiz Objectives 3, 4
WED OR THU	**9/25 9/26**	**(end of class)**	**Test Objectives 3, 4**
THU	10/3	11:59 pm	Objective 5: Linear applications, sets, introduction to graphing
FRI	10/11	11:59 pm	Objective 6: Equations of lines, systems of equations
MON OR TUE	10/14 10/15	(before class)	Quiz Objectives 5, 6
MON OR TUE	**10/14 10/15**	**(end of class)**	**Test Objectives 5, 6**
MON	10/21	11:59 pm	Objective 7: Introduction to functions
MON	10/28	11:59 pm	Objective 8: Translations and graphs of non-linear functions
WED OR THU	10/30 10/31	(before class)	Quiz Objectives 7, 8
WED OR THU	**10/30 10/31**	**(end of class)**	**Test Objectives 7, 8**
MON	11/11	11:59 pm	Objective 9: Quadratic functions, inverse functions, introduction to exponential functions
FRI	11/22	11:59 pm	Objective 10: Exponential and logarithmic functions
MON OR TUE	11/25 11/26	(before class)	Quiz Objectives 9, 10
MON OR TUE	**11/25 11/26**	**(end of class)**	**Test Objectives 9, 10**
TBA	TBA	(before scheduled final)	Quiz Comprehensive Final
TBA	**TBA**	**(end of exam period)**	**Comprehensive final exam**

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

For most students, success in an ALEKS course requires spending 4-5 hours each week working in the program. For other students, it will require more time. It is **essential** that you begin work immediately and commit the necessary time each week. Begin by working on the objectives in your "pie." Once you complete at least 70-75% of the objective topics, begin working the quizzes as many times as necessary to achieve at least 80-90% mastery. You may review your answers after each attempt to see your errors. This will prepare you for the test over the objective. You may find yourself moving rapidly through the beginning topics, **but as you progress, you will find the material increasingly difficult and you will need to spend more time**. **You are not expected to learn on your own; if you need help, ask for it—from your instructor, from the faculty and tutors in the lab, or from the Learning Assistance Center.**

FINISHING EARLY IN ALEKS

Students enrolled in MATH 1314 who complete to the "A" level before the end of the semester will be given the option of taking the Prep for Calculus ALEKS assessment that might allow them to bypass certain further pre-requisite courses for calculus. If calculus is the first course required for your degree, or if you want further information, see Ms. Sue Sabrio, the Coordinator of Introductory mathematics.

TEST POLICIES

Tests will be during your regularly scheduled class time on the date indicated in the course outline above. Time in the lab when taking scheduled tests is **NOT** counted toward lab hours, so you will not sign in to the lab. Time for taking tests in the lab **BEFORE** the scheduled date **WILL** count toward lab hours. Lab hours for early testing: TBA

Test procedures:

- Password will be provided by your instructor
- Fill out the top portion of the scratch paper provided, and use the scratch paper to record your work. This will provide further documentation that you took the test and will give your instructor information about what you know.
- Use only the scratch paper provided. All notes and personal items must be put on the floor out of your sight.
- **Only the calculator provided by the ALEKS program is allowed.**
- **Absolutely no personal electronic devices are allowed during tests.**

When you have finished your test, raise your hand, and your instructor will collect your scratch paper.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING)

The following is considered academic dishonesty (cheating) during tests and is strictly prohibited. **A student found in violation will earn an F for the course:**

- Using a calculator other than that provided by ALEKS
- Using notes
- Accessing websites other than ALEKS
- Using a cell phone
- Any situation where students are potentially accessing help to answer questions

CALCULATORS

The ALEKS program provides a calculator for problems that require one. No other calculators will be allowed. Use of prohibited calculators during tests will be considered academic dishonesty and cause for disciplinary action, as outlined above.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

- **Class Attendance:** Each student is **required** to attend and actively participate in two 50-minute class meetings each week.
- **Lab Attendance:** All students are required to spend at least three (3) hours per week working in the JavALab to satisfy attendance requirements. Students may complete learning objectives outside the JavALab but time spent working outside the JavALab will not count toward lab attendance**.**
- **If a student has the equivalent of 6 or more unexcused missed attendance hours, either class or lab, instructors may initiate drop procedures and the student may be dropped from the course**
- Up to 50 attendance points added to the final grade are available based on class and lab attendance:

For sections meeting two days a week, students may earn a maximum of 5 attendance credits per week for a total of 70 (14 weeks x 5); 1 credit for each class attended and 3 credits for attending 3 hours of lab.

For sections meeting two days a week:
63-70 total credits = 50 extra points
56-62 = 40
49-55 = 30
42-48 = 20
35-41 = 10
<35 = 0

IF YOU DECIDE TO DROP THIS CLASS: If you drop on or before October 31, you earn an automatic "Q." If you drop after this date and before December 4 (which is the last day to drop a course), and you have been attending class regularly and progressing in ALEKS, you will earn a "Q." If you drop after October 31, but have not been attending regularly or submitting assignments, you will earn an F, if you are failing at that point, or a Q, if you are passing. Note that if you have not been attending regularly or progressing in ALEKS, it is very unlikely that you will be passing at that point.

NB: If you were an incoming freshman in fall 2007 or later, you are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007. SB 1231 limits you to a maximum of six (6) non-punitive drops during your undergraduate career. (A non- punitive drop does not affect your GPA.) Course drops that exceed the maximum allowed by SB 1231 will be treated as "Fs" and will impact your GPA.

JAVALAB (Rhode 308) HOURS :
Monday - Thursday 9:00 am-9:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday 4:00 – 8:00 pm

JAVALAB COORDINATOR:
mark.cortez@tamuk.edu
Rhode Hall 308

INTRO MATH COORDINATOR:
susan.sabrio@tamuk.edu
Phone number: 361-593-2236
Office: Rhode 237

THE JAVALAB
will close Friday, August 30 at 5:00 pm and re-open Tuesday, September 3 at 9:00 am; (Labor Day Holiday)
will close Wednesday, November 27 at 1:00 pm and re-open Monday, November 2 at 9:00 am; (Thanksgiving Holiday)
will close for the semester on Thursday, December 12 at 3:30 pm

JAVALAB BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS
The JavALab is a mathematics classroom, in which all activity is directed toward working in the ALEKS program. To ensure the best learning environment, we expect students to observe the following behaviors. Any violation of these expected behaviors could result in dismissal from the lab.

1. **Be quiet** while working in the JavALab.
2. **Come prepared** with your own notebook or scratch paper and a pen or pencil. Scratch paper will be provided only for tests.
3. **Refrain from**:
   (a) Using cell phones, iphones, blackberries, ipods, mp3 players, or any personal electronic devices. All cell phones and personal electronic devices should be turned off and put away in a pocket, bag, or purse. Earphones are strictly prohibited unless used for watching videos on ALEKS
   (b) Having food, drink, (including water) tobacco products, or companions.
   (c) Talking, visiting websites other than ALEKS, playing computer games, typing a paper, sleeping, or any activity other than working in the ALEKS program.
4. **Swipe your TAMUK ID card** when you enter or leave the JavALab, even for a short break. Attendance can only be recorded if the card is swiped at both entry and exit. Students presenting false IDs will be charged with academic misconduct and reported to the Dean of Students. Penalties up to and including a semester's suspension may be imposed
5. **Know your course and section from the first day of the semester**. As you enter you will be asked your course and section. Attendance can only be recorded correctly with this information.
6. **Display your valid TAMUK ID** at all times while working in the JavALab.

The use of a computer in the JavALab is on a first-come, first-served basis.

SOFTWARE INSTALLATION: ALEKS software can be installed on the student's personal computer. Internet access and the appropriate plug-ins are required in order to use the ALEKS website.