

Elementary Algebra DSPM 0800 Course Syllabus

Course Description 3 Credits; 3 Lecture Hours

This course covers elementary algebra topics such as solving linear equations, using proportions to solve problems, laws of exponents, basic operations with polynomials, formulas and applications, graphing linear equations and inequalities, equations of lines and solving systems of equations.

Prerequisite: Passing grade in Basic Math or appropriate placement score.

Text and Materials

Text: *Basic Math, Algebra and Geometry with Applications, 2nd Ed. W/MML:* Cheryl Cleaves and Margie Hobbs.

Other: A graphics calculator is required. The Texas Instruments model TI-83 plus or TI-84 is recommended.

General Student Outcomes

In the successful completion of this course, the student will:

1. Review integers, including basic operations with signed numbers, whole number exponents, and simplification of numeric expressions using the order of operations.
2. Simplify variable expressions and be familiar with symbolic statements.
3. Solve linear equations in one variable.
4. Solve applied problems using linear equations.
5. Solve problems involving direct proportions and direct variation.
6. Evaluate formulas and solve literal equations for a specified variable.
7. Develop proficiency with the laws of exponents.
8. Recognize polynomials and perform basic operations including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
9. Graph linear equations on the rectangular coordinate system by various methods.

10. Determine the slope of a line.
11. Write the equation of a line given a point on the line and slope; or given two points.
12. Discuss the characteristics of parallel and perpendicular lines.
13. Graph linear inequalities.
14. Solve linear systems of two equations by graphing, elimination, and substitution.
15. Apply the above skills to real-world applications.

Final Exam

After completing all units in any developmental mathematics course, a COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM will be required. The score on this exam will be calculated as a portion of your final grade. The individual instructor will determine how your final grade is calculated.

Course Pacing

The instructor is responsible for pacing the entire class in order that the required course content is covered. Examinations will be scheduled and administered to the entire class during regular class meeting times. The final exam for this course will be administered during the scheduled final exam period. Be sure to note your instructor's pacing guidelines and his/her policies on make-ups.

Grading Policy

Your instructor determines the grading policy in your class. Your letter grade will be based on the following scale:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Numerical Grade</u>
A Superior	90 – 100 %
B Excellent	80 – 89%
C Average	70 – 79%
F Failure	< 70 %
W Withdrawal	Must submit official form
I Incomplete	Must see instructor to complete

Attendance Policy

The Tennessee Board of Regents requires **mandatory** attendance for all students in developmental classes. The following rules apply:

- (1) A student may fail a developmental class, regardless of prior course grades, after missing the equivalent of two weeks of class. Failing a course may adversely affect VA benefits, financial aid, insurance benefits, dependency status, scholarship eligibility etc.
- (2) Individual instructors determine specific make-up policies. Students absent from a developmental class might not be allowed to make up missed tests, writing assignments, or other graded work. Missed work will adversely affect final course grades. Documentation of reason for absence is expected.

ADA Statement

Southwest Tennessee Community College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all qualified individuals with disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Counseling, Advising, and Articulation Center to arrange for appropriate accommodations. When the disability has been documented and verified, a counselor will contact the faculty member regarding any special accommodations to be provided.

For more detailed information, refer to the college catalog under the section on Counseling for students with disabilities.

Misuse of Computers

Computers in Southwest Tennessee's computer labs, the Academic Support Center and the library are to be used for educational purposes only.

Beepers or Telephones

All communication devices must be turned off if you have these items with you in class. The noise is distracting not only to the instructor but to your classmates as well. In some instances you may be asked to put these devices away.

Unauthorized Attendance

No children or other unauthorized individuals are allowed in the classroom. No student will be allowed to attend class until his/her name is on the official class roll or he/she has proper documentation from the Records Office.