I. COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Nicolas (Nick) Curiel, Jr.
E-MAIL Address: nicolas.curiel@tamucc.edu
Office Address: TBD Office Phone: TBD
Office Hours: MWF (12:30 PM – 1:30 PM)
Class Meetings: Math 1314.006 MW 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM IH-164
Math 1314.016 MWF 11:00 AM – 11:50 AM CI-126
Final Exam Date and Time: December 5, 2014 (2:00 PM – 4:30 PM)

II. RATIONALE

The rationale for offering a College Algebra course comes from the need to transition incoming high school students, or students from developmental mathematics to college mathematics. By studying and understanding the principles of college algebra, students will be better prepared to study higher mathematic principles. At a minimum, students who successfully complete College Algebra will meet the mathematical requirements of a baccalaureate degree.

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course continues the development of algebra from Math 0399, Intermediate Algebra. A review of properties of numbers and linear equations and inequalities is included. Topics are quadratic equations and inequalities, graphs, logarithms, and exponential, solutions of polynomial equations, systems of equations, and matrices.

IV. PREREQUISITES

Math 0399, Intermediate Algebra, or placement into College Algebra.

V. TEXT AND OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED

College Algebra by Lial, Hornsby, Schneider, and Daniels, 11th ed. Hardcover, E-Book, or loose leaf version of text is acceptable.
A TI-83/ TI-84 plus is required for the course. Other models may be used but will NOT be supported by the instructor.
A student solutions manual is available for sale in the bookstore.
VI. COURSE OBJECTIVES/STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Solve linear equations (with specific unknown variables) and inequalities, recognize and create graphs of linear functions and interpret and solve linear models.

2. Solve quadratic equations (includes circles and variations) and inequalities, recognize and create graphs of quadratic functions and interpret and solve quadratic models.

3. Solve polynomial equations and inequalities, recognize and create graphs of polynomial functions and interpret and solve polynomial models.

4. Use exponential expressions and functions to model real world situations and to solve abstract exponential equations.

5. Use logarithmic expressions and functions to model real world situations and to solve abstract logarithmic equations.

6. Model with systems of equations with two variables and solve them using the method of substitution, graphing or elimination with backward substitution.

7. Apply a general understanding of the use of inverse functions (their domains and ranges) and procedures to solve real-world and abstract equations and models.

VII. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

Methods and activities for instruction include, but are not limited to, lecture by the instructor, discussions in groups, and participation by the students by solving problems in and outside of class.

VIII. EVALUATION AND GRADE ASSIGNMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class participation/in class assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside of class assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams (top 4 scores out of 5 exams)</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam (not reschedule able)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>89.5 to 100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>79.5 to 89.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>69.5 to 79.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>59.5 to 69.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 59.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**IX. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**  

**Fall 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Chapter/Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.1 and 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.3, 1.4, and 1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.6, and Exam 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.7 and 1.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2.5, and Exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>3.1, 3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.3, 3.4, 3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>3.6, Exam 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4.1, 4.2 and 4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4.4, and Exam 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>5.1, 5.2, and 5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Exam 5, and [6.1 (If schedule allows)]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>[6.2, and 6.3 (If schedule allows)], and Review for Final Exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**X. CLASS POLICIES**

1. Attendance is REQUIRED.
2. Assignments must be turned in on TIME.
3. CHEATING is prohibited (see section XIII).
4. If you have questions, you MUST ask.
5. All tests will consist of problems you have to solve from the beginning to the end. Partial credit will be given for any parts of problems solved. The exam (does not apply to Final Exam) policy is open books, notes, and no talking.
6. The instructor may AMEND the syllabus at any time prior to the final exam by announcing the changes in class.
7. Print your name and date on all assignments, and exams.
8. This class is conducted for the mathematical development of all participants. All students must accept responsibility for participating and consequences of not participating.
9. Please silence cell phones and other electronic devices before coming to class. If you need to take a call, please step out of the classroom so as to not distract your colleagues.
10. All absences from class or exams will be considered unexcused unless they are documented in advance as excusable with the instructor or as soon as possible in the case of emergencies. No credit will be awarded for work not completed resulting from unexcused absences.
XI. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. You are responsible for the information contained in the university ACADEMIC CALENDAR – Fall 2014. In particular, you are responsible for dropping the class. November 7, 2014 is the last day to drop the class (see section XII).

2. You are responsible for contacting me, if you miss a due date.

3. You are responsible for seeking help from the Center for Academic Student Achievement, a private tutor, coming to my office hours, or attending a student study group; if you have difficulty with a skill or concept.

4. You are expected to comply with the rules in the Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct, as well as the processes in the latter, which are administered by the Office of Student Affairs. The Student Handbook and Student Code of Conduct are accessible at http://www.tamucc.edu/~students.

XII. DROPPING A CLASS

I hope you do not have to drop this class. Sometimes situations occur that make dropping a course necessary. However, you should always talk to me prior to dropping. We may be able to work out a plan that will assist you in completing the course. Should dropping the course be the best solution, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the appropriate office and filing out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

The State of Texas has enacted a statute that applies to students who enroll in public institutions of higher education as first-time freshmen in Fall 2007 or later. Under section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, “an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop more than six courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education.” Any course a student drops after the census date published in the class schedule or academic calendar (which for Fall 2007 is Sept 7th) is counted toward the six-course limit unless specifically identified as being exempt. If you have any questions please send an email with phone number to admisstamucc.edu and a representative of the Office of Admissions & Records will contact you.

XIII. ACADEMIC HONESTY

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a grade of zero (0) on that assignment or an F in the class, depending on circumstances.
XIV. DISABILITY SERVICES

Disability Services (DS) is the hub for coordinating services and accommodations to ensure accessibility and utilization of all programs for all Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi students with disabilities. Our services are designed to meet the unique educational needs of enrolled students with documented permanent or temporary disabilities. DS provides intake and consultation services to students seeking to register with our office. We review individual’s documentation of disability and assess eligibility for services and determination of reasonable accommodations. Please contact the Disability Services office, located in Corpus Christi Hall 116, at 825-5816, if you need disability accommodations for this class.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

XV. GRADE APPEAL PROCESS

A student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is on the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures (http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage (http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school or the College of Science and Engineering Dean’s Office.

XVI. STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, university facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.
XVII. CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Also, Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

XVIII. FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

Under FERPA, a student has the right to:

1. Inspect and review their education records

Students can inspect and review their education records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access. A student should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department, or other appropriate official, a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The University official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the University official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. Request to amend their education records

Students can request to amend any of their education records that they believe are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA. A student who wishes to ask the University to amend a record should write the University official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the University decides not to amend the record as requested, the University will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student’s right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. Some control over the disclosure of their education records

Students have the right to provide written consent before the University discloses personally identifiable information from their education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. The University discloses education records without a student’s prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is

- A person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff)

- A person or company with whom the University has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using University employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent)

- A person serving on the Board of Trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the University.

Upon request, the University also discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

4. File a complaint if they feel any of these rights have been violated

Students can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-5901
XIX. STARFISH EARLY ALERT

The Center for Academic Student Achievement is hosting Starfish, an Early Alert software program for identifying undergraduate students who need assistance from academic support services at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The Early Alert program offers convenient early warning identification capabilities and connects students to a collaborative “Success Network” of faculty, advisors, and specialized support staff to address students’ needs and inquiries in real time.

The Early Alert program allows faculty and staff to identify the academic needs of TAMUCC’s undergraduate students at any point during the academic term. Starfish provides early alerts, or “flags”, when raised by faculty or staff; generate emails notifying the student, and members of the student’s “Success Network” of course progress and academic concerns needing to be addressed.

Students can actively engage with members of their “Success Network” at any time. Early Alerts raised for students, however, will elicit an Early Alert response originating from CASA, supplemented by Academic Advising, and may include additional support from campus programs including Student Engagement and Success, Enrollment Management, PASS, and other academic support programs from TAMUCC.

Starting Spring 2014, all Pre-1000, 1000, and 2000 level courses at TAMUCC will be supported by the Early Alert program through the implementation of progress reports. Progress report will help to identify students’ academic needs, including:

- Poor class attendance
- Low class participation
- Low test or quiz scores
- Missing or incomplete work
- Midterm grades below a C
- In danger of Failing

Starfish Connect facilitates meaningful contact between students and their instructors, advisors, and mentors. The system encourages students to engage more deeply in their academic lives by connecting students to the people and resources in place to help students succeed. Students can access Starfish by logging into Blackboard (bb9.tamucc.edu), and selecting the Starfish Button within Blackboard’s Tools.

XX. IMPORTANT DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 27th</td>
<td>Classes begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, September 1st</td>
<td>Labor Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 7th</td>
<td>Last day to drop a class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday - Friday November 27th – 28th</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, December 5th (2:00 PM – 4:30 PM)</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
</tr>
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