



# Math1314. 8HBDC – College Algebra - Online

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

*“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”*

**Instructor: Karen Russell**

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Office	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
Hours	4:00 – 5:00 pm					

***This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.***

*Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.*

**Course Description:** In-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations using matrices. Additional topics such as sequences, series, probability, and conics may be included as time permits. Three hours credit.

**Prerequisite(s):** 1) TSI Not Complete – Multiple Measures Placement with Corequisite Model  
*or* 2) TSI Complete Status

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will

- 1314.1 Demonstrate understanding and knowledge of properties of functions, which include domain and range, operations, compositions, and inverses.
- 1314.2 Recognize and apply polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions and solve related equations.
- 1314.3 Apply graphing techniques.
- 1314.4 Evaluate all roots of higher degree polynomial functions.
- 1314.5 Recognize, solve, and apply systems of linear equations using matrices.

**Evaluation/Grading Policy:**

A series of online Blackboard engagement opportunities including discussion forums (Participation) (20% of final grade); online homework problems (Lumen OHM) (20% of your final grade), module/chapter quizzes (Lumen OHM) (20% of your final grade), Midterm Exam (20% of your final grade), and Final Exam (20% of your final grade). **Both the Midterm and Final Exams MUST be proctored.** You will take your exams in the NTCC Testing Center. Note: Exams are not accepted after the due date.

Homework and exams via Lumen OHM are graded when submitted. Discussion forums are graded **after** the due date. A grading rubric for discussion forums is available in the Appendix at the end of the syllabus. Note: Discussions are not accepted after the due date.

**Grade Breakdown:**

Participation:	20%	Discussion Forums/Communication
Lumen OHM Homework:	20%	Online homework via Blackboard
Module/Chapter Quizzes:	20%	Online quizzes via Blackboard
Midterm Exam:	20%	Online must be Proctored
Final Exam:	20%	Online must be Proctored

100% - 90% = "A"  
89% - 80% = "B"  
79% - 70% = "C"  
69% - 60% = "D"  
Below 60% = "F"

Make-up exams will not be given unless the student has coordinated with the instructor prior to the exam. **Any exam not proctored will result in a grade of zero.**

Lumen OHM homework and quizzes will require the use of "Late Passes" if not completed by the scheduled due date. Each student has 265 late passes that extend the assignment due date for 24 hours. If the assignment is over 24 hours late, multiple late passes will be required. Students may use more than one late pass per assignment that is past due. At the discretion of the instructor a penalty may be imposed on late assignments.

**Required Instructional Materials:**

Good news: your textbook for this class is available for free online, in web view and PDF format! You can also purchase a print version, if you prefer, via the campus bookstore or from OpenStax on Amazon.com. The free PDF format is available in your Blackboard course.

You can use whichever format you want. Web view is recommended -- the responsive design works seamlessly on any device. If you buy it on Amazon, make sure you use the link on your book page on openstax.org so you get the official OpenStax print version. (Simple printouts sold by third parties on Amazon are not verifiable and not as high-quality.)

College Algebra by OpenStax is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution License v4.0



**Inclusive Access Course:** A discounted fee is added to your student account to cover the cost of the required course material. You will access it through Blackboard on the first-class day.

**Publisher:** OpenStax

**ISBN Number:**

Print: ISBN-10: 1-938168-38-0 or ISBN-13: 978-1-938168-38-3  
Digital: ISBN-10: 1-947172-12-3 or ISBN-13: 978-1-947172-12-8

**Optional Instructional Materials:**

Print copy of the textbook is highly recommended. Research indicates that students learn more and retain it longer from hard copy text.

**Minimum Technology Requirements:**

A scientific calculator is required. TI-83/84 is preferred.

Below are some technical requirements for using Blackboard that will help your experience in this course.

You will see the NTCC Tech Support email address and phone number below. Please contact them if you run into any technical problems during the semester. Please let your instructor know you are having difficulties as well.

If you need further NTCC technical support services, please contact Austin Baker or Mary Lou Pemberton at:

abaker@ntcc.edu or 903-434-8279

mpemberton@ntcc.edu or 903-434-8270

Blackboard will work on both a Mac and a PC. (Chrome Books are known to have issues with Blackboard.) It is best to access Blackboard through Fire-Fox or Chrome as your web browser. If you have trouble with any of the activities working properly, you might change your web browser as your first solution. The Default Browser in Windows 10 is Edge. This browser does not do well with Blackboard! If you go to Windows Accessories, you will find Internet Explorer still on your computer but is not your default browser. If you have any difficulties navigating with Edge, close it and go to Internet Explorer.

To use TEAMS, you must have access to a computer with high-speed internet, a microphone, a Webcam, and appropriate systems rights to download any necessary software. Please note, the college does not provide this equipment.

You can download Blackboard Student for your smart phone from the Play store or the App store.

More information is available for Technology Requirements and Support under the [Student Resources – Technical Support Tab in Blackboard](#).

**Required Computer Literacy Skills:**

As an online student you will have a much different "classroom" experience than a traditional student. To ensure that you are fully prepared for your online part of the course, following is a list of expectations and requirements: Students in a hybrid and/or on-line program should be comfortable with and possess the following skill sets:

1. Self-discipline
2. Problem solving skills.
3. Critical thinking skills
4. Enjoy communication in the written word.

As part of your online experience, you can expect to utilize a variety of technology mediums as part of your curriculum:

1. Communicate via email including sending attachments.
2. Navigate the World Wide Web using a Web browser such as Internet Explorer
3. Use office applications such as Microsoft Office (or similar) to create documents.
4. Be willing to learn how to communicate using a discussion board and upload assignments

- to a classroom Web site.
5. Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files.
  6. Have easy access to the Internet.
  7. Navigate Blackboard, including using the email component within Blackboard. Instructions and tutorials for this are provided in your course.

For more information or technical assistance on using the Learning Management System, please refer to the Home Page, Start Here/Orientation Module, in the important technical requirement, information and support folder in Blackboard.

### **Course Structure and Overview:**

This is a sixteen-week completely online course where students are required to access graded activities on the Blackboard Learning Management System. A typical class involves general participation by all members in discussions regarding mathematical principles and procedures being studied. Students are required to complete online homework, as well as other assignments. It is particularly important for students to keep up with course materials and assignments. Students are expected to watch instructional videos, read course textbooks, and complete online assignments located in the Learning Management System, Blackboard by due dates, and read and respond to announcements/emails from the instructor regularly.

### **Communications:**

Emails and phone messages will be responded to within 24 hours (48 hours on the weekend). If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email or phone message was not received. Please send messages to instructor email, [krussell@ntcc.edu](mailto:krussell@ntcc.edu), instead of using the Blackboard messaging system. Blackboard messages are not received as quickly. Students are expected to abide by Netiquette rules when communicating online. See this link for details: Netiquette Rules.

The college's official means of communication is via your campus email address. I will use your campus email address and Blackboard to communicate with you outside of class. Make sure you keep your campus email clean and below the limit so you can receive important messages. Be sure to check your messages regularly (daily) for important communications.

### **Institutional/Course Policy:**

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Lumen Late Passes will be accepted for Homework and Quiz assignments only. Exams and Discussions will not be accepted late. Students are always expected to be respectful toward classmates and professor! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard and email for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard daily. Do not wait until the last minute to complete and submit assignments in case of technology issues.

### **Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements**

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to

monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

### **Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:**

Absent a clear statement from a course instructor, use of or consultation with generative AI shall be treated analogously to assistance from another person (collusion). Generative AI is a subset of AI that utilizes machine learning models to create new, original content, such as images, text, or music, based on patterns and structures learned from existing data (Cornell, Center for Teaching Innovation).

Unauthorized use of generative AI tools to complete an assignment or exam is not permitted. Students should acknowledge the use of generative AI and default to disclosing such assistance when in doubt. Individual course instructors may set their own policies regulating the use of generative AI tools in their courses, including allowing or disallowing some or all uses of such tools. Students who are unsure of policies regarding generative AI tools are encouraged to ask their instructors for

clarification. **(Adapted from the Stanford University Office of Community Standards-- accessed August 31, 2023)**

### **NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:**

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

### **ADA Statement:**

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

### **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the

student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student’s name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

**Eagle Assist:**

At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often need support that extends beyond the classroom. “Eagle Assist” is the place to start when looking for that type of assistance. Our support system is here to help you succeed in both your academic and personal growth.

[www.ntcc.edu/eagleassist](http://www.ntcc.edu/eagleassist)

Services provided:

- Mental Health Counseling
- Classroom Accommodations
- NTCC Care Center Food Pantry
- NTCC Care Center Hygiene Closet
- NTCC Care Center Cook Nook
- Financial Literacy
- Child Care Assistance
- Emergency Aid

Can’t find what you are looking for? Send us a message at [eagleassist@ntcc.edu](mailto:eagleassist@ntcc.edu)

Mental Health Counseling Services are available to all NTCC students.

- Visit the following page to get your account activated:

[www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc](http://www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc)

**Tentative Course Timeline (\*note\* instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term):**

Week	Math 1314 Spring 2026 Topics & Assignments	Due Dates
Beginning of Semester	Become familiar with Blackboard Watch Welcome Video Register with Lumen Ohm using Inclusive Access  Complete Syllabus Acknowledgement Agreement and Discussion #1: Introductions	01/11//26
Week 1	Module 1: Algebra Essentials Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 1 Section 1.2 Section 1.3	01/18/26 01/25/26
Week 2	Module 2: Polynomial & Rational Expressions Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 2 Sections 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6	02/01/26

Week 3	Module 3: Equations & Inequalities Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 3 Sections 2.1 and 2.2	02/08/26
Week 4	Module 4: Equations & Inequalities Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 4 Sections 2.5, 2.6, and 2.7	02/15/26
Week 5	Modules 5: Function Basics Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 5 Sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.3	02/22/26
Week 6	Modules 6: Algebraic Operations on Functions Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 6 Sections 3.4, 3.5, 3.7	03/01/26
Week 7	Modules 7: Linear Functions Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 7 Sections 4.1a, 4.1b, 4.2, Properties of Functions SLO	03/08/26
Week 8	Complete & review all assignments to help prepare for Midterm Exam: Modules 1 – 7 Midterm Exam Review  Complete <b>Midterm Exam</b> due by 03/11/26 – must be proctored at NTCC Testing Center	03/10/26  03/10/26  03/11/26
Week 9	Discussion #2 Complete all parts of Discussion and submit	03/22/26
Week 10	Module 8: Quadratic Functions Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 8 Sections 2.4, 5.1a, 5.1b, Graphing SLO	03/29/26

Week 11	Module 9: Polynomial Functions Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 9 Sections 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, Roots of Polynomials SLO	04/05/26
Week 12	Module 11: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  <b>Last Day to Withdraw with a “W”</b>  Module 11 Sections 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4	04/12/26  <b>04/16/26</b>
Week 13	Module 12: Exponential and Logarithmic Equations Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 12 Sections 6.5, 6.6	04/19/26
Week 14	Module 14: Solve Systems with Matrices Review textbook section material Complete assigned online HW problems and Quiz  Module 14 Sections 7.5, 7.6	04/26/26
Week 15	Begin Reviewing for Final Exam Discussion #3  Complete assigned online HW problems Solving Various Equations SLO and Solving Systems with Matrices SLO Complete all parts of Discussion #3 and submit	05/03/26
Week 16	Complete Final Exam Review  Complete <b>Final Exam</b> due by 05/11/26 - must be proctored at NTCC Testing Center	05/10/26  05/11/26

## Appendix:

### Discussion Forum Math Rubric:

9 – 10: The student completes all important components of the task as outlined in Blackboard and communicates ideas clearly. The student demonstrates in-depth understanding of the relevant concepts and/or processes by explaining the procedure. Student must give examples of steps learned from the video. The student will reply in detail to another post as outlined in Blackboard. Where appropriate, the student chooses more efficient and/or sophisticated processes. Where appropriate, the student offers insightful interpretations or extensions. (Generalizations, applications, analogies).

**It is not enough to say simply that the video was helpful because they explained it well, or**

**that they broke the topic down in detail, or that they used color to help explain the topic. Student MUST explain specific procedural steps of the topic that they learned from the video.**

- 7 – 8: The student completes most important components of the task and communicates clearly. The student demonstrates understanding of major concepts even though she/he overlooks or misunderstands some less important ideas or details in the explanation. The student replies with very little detail to another post.
- 5 – 6: The student completes some important components of the task and communicates those clearly. The student demonstrates that there are gaps in his/her conceptual understanding and in the explanation. The student does not reply to another post.
- 3 – 4: Student shows minimal understanding. Student unable to generate strategy or answer may display only recall effect. Answer lacks clear communication. Students shows no explanation of the procedure.
- 1 – 2: Answer may be totally incorrect or irrelevant.
- 0: Blank/no response