



MATH 1314.021DC College Algebra

Course Syllabus: Fall 2026

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

Instructor: Dr. Jackie Johnston

Office: MS 120

Phone: 903-434-8305

Email: jjohnston@ntcc.edu

Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	9:30 – 11:00 & 1:30 – 3:30
Tuesday	1:30 – 3:30
Wednesday	9:30 – 11:00 & 1:30 – 3:30
Thursday	2:00 – 3:00
Friday	Online by Appointment

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):

Student Learning Outcomes:

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 engagement opportunities including in-class assignments/group work (Participation), which are 20% of final grade; module quizzes are 30%, Midterm and Final Exam are each 25 % which will contribute to 50% of the final grade, both the Midterm and Final Exams must be proctored.

If you are unable to take your exams in-class (required unless there are extenuating circumstances) or at NTCC's Testing Center, then students may use TEAMS as an online proctor. For TEAMS, students are required to have access to a computer with high-speed internet, a microphone, a webcam, and appropriate system rights to

download and install the necessary software. Please note, the college does not provide this equipment. Detailed instructions on how to use TEAMS as an online proctor will be available in your Blackboard course.

Self-checks and Quizzes via OHM Lumen are graded when submitted.

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

%	Requirement
30%	Quizzes via Lumen OHM
20%	Participation
50%	Exams

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
80 %–89%	B
70 %–79%	C
60%–69 %	D
59.9% and below	F

Make-up exams will not be given unless the student has coordinated with the instructor prior to the exam.

Lumen OHM quizzes will require the use of “Late Passes” if not completed by the scheduled due date. Each student has 500 last passes that extend the assignment due date for 48 hours. Students may use more than one late pass per assignment that is past due.

Any missed work will be made up at the discretion of the instructor. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the instructor.

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.

Publisher: Lumen Learning

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 recommended.

The TI-84 Online Calculators is available for individual purchase by students through the TI Store. A single license for the TI-84 Online Calculator is \$20 per year and the single license for the TI Nspire CX II Online Calculator is \$27.50 per year. Both online calculator solutions come with full math functionality. For a full list of specifications and a comparison chart of the various functionalities for each of the online calculator solutions, please click on the appropriate link below.

- [TI-84 Plus CE ONLINE Calculator](#) - \$20.00 per year for an individual license
- [TI-Nspire CX II ONLINE Calculator](#) - \$27.50 per year for an individual license.

The link to the TI Store where students can purchase their individual licenses is found below:

[TI STORE](#)

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 will 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. In order 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, Orientation Module, in the important technical requirements, information and support folder in Blackboard.

Course Structure and Overview:

This is a sixteen-week hybrid 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, exercises and group work regarding mathematical principles and procedures being studied. Students are required to complete online self-checks, quizzes, 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.

Communications:

Emails, TEAMS and phone messages will be responded to within 24 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, then the email or phone message was not received. Posts in the Discussion Forum "Questions, Comments, and/or Concerns?" will be monitored by the instructor. Responses by the instructor will be within 72 hours of post. 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 cleaned out and below the limit so you can receive important messages.

Institutional/Course Policy:

No late work will be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. Students are always expected to be

respectful toward classmates and professors! Review Student Conduct in the Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for important information/announcements regarding the course. Students should be working on course material via Blackboard every week. 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:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

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 accommodation 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 accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. 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.

Tentative Course Schedule:

College Algebra – 16-Week Hybrid Schedule

Meets Once Per Week – Hybrid Delivery

(IC = In-class application, OL = Pre-class prep, Quiz at end of week)

Week	Online (OL – Completed Before Class)	In-Class (IC)	Assessment (Due Dates)
1	Review Blackboard course, read syllabus, complete syllabus acknowledgement agreement.	8/25/26 Orientation, syllabus review, technology platform intro, Algebra readiness check, practice problems.	Quiz: Algebra Essentials 8/31/26
2	Polynomial Basics; Factoring Polynomials; Rational Expressions (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	9/1/26 Guided practice on factoring and rational expressions	Quiz: Polynomial & Rational Expressions 9/7/26
3	Graphing & Analyzing Linear Equations; Equations of Lines; Modeling with Linear Equations; Linear Inequalities (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	9/8/26 Solving & graphing linear equations/inequalities, modeling applications	Quiz: Linear Equations & Inequalities 9/14/26
4	Quadratic Equations; Other Types of Equations; Applications of Non-Linear Equations (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	9/15/26 Quadratic solving methods, nonlinear applications	Quiz: Non-Linear Equations 9/21/26
5	Introduction to Functions; Domain & Range; Rates of Change & Graph Behavior (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	9/22/26 Function notation, interpreting domain/range, rate of change problems	Quiz: Function Basics 9/28/26
6	Combinations & Compositions of Functions; Transformations of Functions; Inverse Functions (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	9/29/26 In-class composition practice, graph transformations, inverse function exercises	Quiz: Algebraic Operations on Functions 10/5/26

Week	Online (OL – Completed Before Class)	In-Class (IC)	Assessment (Due Dates)
7	Introduction to Linear Functions; Graphs of Linear Functions; Fitting Linear Models to Data (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	10/6/26 Graphing, slope analysis, and model fitting activities	Quiz: Linear Functions 10/12/26
8	Review Weeks 1–7	10/13/26 Midterm Exam (In class)	
9	Introduction to Quadratic Functions & Parabolas; Complex Numbers; Applications of Quadratic Functions (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	10/20/26 Graphing parabolas, solving with complex roots, applied problems	Quiz: Quadratic Functions 10/26/26
10	Introduction to Power & Polynomial Functions; Graphs of Polynomial Functions; Dividing Polynomials; Zeros of Polynomial Functions (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	10/27/26 Analyzing polynomial graphs, division methods, and finding zeros	Quiz: Power & Polynomial Functions 11/2/26
11	Rational Functions; Inverses & Radical Functions; Variations (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	11/3/26 Asymptote analysis, radical function transformations	Quiz: Rational & Radical Functions 11/9/26
12	Exponential Functions; Applications of Exponential Functions; Logarithmic Functions; Logarithmic Graphs (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	11/10/26 Applying growth/decay models, log transformations	Quiz: Exponential & Logarithmic Functions 11/16/26
13	Logarithmic Properties; Solving Exponential & Logarithmic Equations; Exponential & Logarithmic Models (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	11/17/26 Equation solving practice, model interpretation	Quiz: Exp/Log Equations & Models 11/30/26
14	Thanksgiving Week	Thanksgiving Week	
15	Systems of Linear Equations (2-variable); Matrix Operations (Learn It, Apply It, Self-Check)	12/1/26 Gaussian elimination, matrix applications	Quiz: Systems of Equations & Matrices 12/7/26
16	Review Weeks 8–15	12/8/26 Final Exam (In class)	Final Exam