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Math 1050-007, College Algebra
Spring 2025

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General Information

Class Meetings: MTuWF 09:40AM-10:30AM, JTB 130

Instructor: Brendan Murphy (office JWB 327)	LA: Tal Howe
Email: bsmurphy@math.utah.edu *Please email me or contact me through Canvas. You can use the Canvas messaging system by clicking on **Inbox** on the left side menu. I will only respond to email from your official umail account.*	Email: u1474296@utah.edu *Please email me or contact me through Canvas. You can use the Canvas messaging system by clicking on **Inbox** on the left side menu. I will only respond to email from your official umail account.*

Textbook: The textbook for this course is available at no cost to you through our Canvas page!
Course Information: Math 1050 College Algebra is a 4 credit course.
Course Description: This course covers functions, inverses, and graphs; polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions; systems of equations and matrices; applications.

Note: Most students taking Math 1050 plan to take Math 1060 (Trigonometry) and Calculus. Few majors on campus require Math 1050. Although Math 1050 fulfills the general education QA requirement, those who do not need it as a prerequisite or for their major are encouraged to look at Math 1030 or Math 2000 as possible alternatives to fill the QA requirement.

Prerequisites: The Math Department does not use prerequisites to place students in math classes. Students are responsible for determining that they are ready for the course they select. The former prerequisites for Math 1050 are listed below. Find out more here.

- C or better in Math 1010
- 245+ in Accuplacer AAF (The UofU provides one free Accuplacer exam to all students. https://testingcenter.utah.edu/students/placement-tests/math-placement.php)
- 23+ in ACT Math
- 570+ in SAT Math
- Qualifying GPA 3.35

Course Coordinator: Dalyana Guerra, JWB 330, d.guerra@utah.edu. Please inform your instructor of any problems you have with this course. Problems not satisfactorily resolved with your instructor should be brought to the attention of the Course Coordinator.

Student Experience

How you take this course - the depth of engagement, and nature of effort - is largely your choice.
Make this choice consciously in light of your personal and academic goals.

Class Preparation: You are expected to come to class to learn the material. Repetitive exposure to the material will be helpful. If you are able to, I would suggest reading the textbook (or watching a lecture video) on the appropriate section *prior* to the class in which that material is discussed. After the class presentation, you should re-read the material and work through all of the assigned problems.

The *only* way to learn mathematics is to *do* mathematics.

- You should work out and carefully write up all of the assigned exercises. A small portion of each lecture will be devoted to discussing these problems and others. You must fully complete each problem, plus any additional problems that you need to further your own understanding of the material.
- Ask questions. If something is not completely clear, ask about it in lecture, in HW Workshop or at the Math Center as soon as possible. Don't hesitate to bring questions to your course instructor or LA during office hours or HW Workshop.
- Stay caught up. Math concepts build on each other cumulatively and you need to stay on top of the material at every stage. If you are having difficulty, don't expect that the problem will take care of itself and disappear later. Contact your course instructor or your LA immediately and discuss the problem.

Attendance and Participation: You are expected to attend and participate in class. This course will involve small group problem solving, class discussion, and lecture. Your success will be limited without full attendance and participation. At the same time, you are all adults (or if not, expected to behave like adults) and your time is your own responsibility. Attendance is not tracked and there is no component of your grade directly based off attendance—however, not attending class is a good way to get behind and fail the class. You don't need to notify me about your absences unless they're on the day of a Quiz or Exam (Friday).

Email Accessibility: In addition to asking questions in class, in office hours, or homework workshops, you can get help by email (or through Canvas's messaging system). I aim to reply by the next business day, but I'm usually very prompt in replying. Assume I will not check my email outside 9am-5pm on Weekdays. If you email, please make sure to use your umail address uXYZ...@utah.edu (I may not see it otherwise). Your emails don't need to be fully formal but you should use full sentences and be polite. Also, make sure to include enough detail for me to help; in particular if you're asking for help with a technical issue please include screenshots of the problem.

Resources for Help

Office hours: Office Hours are designated times in which you can seek the help of your instructor. These times will be announced the second week of classes. These hours are *for you*, you're not taking up my time by attending. In fact, it's pretty boring to sit for an hour with no students! Please don't hesitate to come and share any questions, concerns, feelings, or musings you may have.

HW Workshops: There will be hour-long workshops for students to work on and discuss homework problems. These will be led by our LA. **Each Section of Math 1050 has an LA and you will have access to all of the help sessions offered by each of them.** More information on when these will be announced the second week of classes.

Additional Resources:
Tutoring Center & Computer Lab- There is free tutoring in the T. Benny Rushing Mathematics Student Center (room 155, the lower level/basement between JWB and LCB), as well as a computer lab. For more information, see Math Center at LCB

Private Tutoring- Learning Center Learning Center.

Departmental Videos- The math department has a full set of lecture videos which you are welcome to use to ***supplement*** our course material. These can be found at Math 1050 Lecture Videos and they will be available on Canvas.

Online Course Components

Canvas: All course information and grades will be posted on Canvas. Please check Canvas regularly to ensure your grades have been recorded correctly. **You must bring clerical errors to our attention within one week of the date an assignment was returned. No changes will be made after this time.** You should be checking your email on a daily basis. Major announcements will be communicated through Canvas and you are expected to be up to date with any announcement relating to assignments, class, etc.

Gradescope: Quizzes and exams will be done on paper in class but later scanned into gradescope by the instructor. **Regrade requests on Gradescope will be available for a week after graded submissions are posted. Gradescope is the preferred method of requesting a regrade on an assignment, though you may also discuss issues in office hours–please do not raise issues with grading in class or via email. For the Final Exam, this window of time to request a regrade is shorter.** Regrade requests may involve creating an argument for why you deserve more points. All regrade requests will be considered but should be based on the facts of the problem, the rubric employed, and the work given on the page, but not what you intended to write or thought while working on the problem. The goal of grading is to fairly apply a grading procedure to every student, so a regrade request may result in an increase, decrease, or no change in score.

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Assessments

Formative Assessments

Tools that monitor student learning and provide ongoing feedback.

Homework: Homework is accessed online through Canvas (we use the IMathAs platform). Students are encouraged to start homework the day that material is covered in class. Students are encouraged to start homework promptly, seek help when stuck, and work together when doing homework (in such a way that all are learning mathematics). Students may submit homework late for 80% credit (late submissions close on the day of the final exam).

Quizzes: There will be a weekly quiz given in class. The quiz will take around 10-15 minutes to complete. There are a total of 10 quizzes. The quiz will test your knowledge from the content covered in class. The lowest two quiz scores will be dropped at the end of the semester.

Summative Assessments

These are evaluations of student learning that demonstrates mastery in performing mathematical skill, problem solving, and reasoning.

Midterm Exams: Three 50 minute midterm exams will be given on select days. You will have the whole class period to complete the exam. **Dates of the midterm exams will be:**

Exam 1: Friday, February 7th	**Exam 2: Friday, March 21st**	**Exam 3: Friday, April 18th**

Final Exam: A two-hour cumulative exam will be given. This Final will cover all the material of the course. ***Do not schedule any travel before the date below. You are expected to show up in person to the Common Final Exam.***

Final Exam Details
Date: Tuesday, April 29th
Time: 1-3PM
Location: JFB 102

Calculators: **Calculators will not be allowed on exams or quizzes.** They may be used on homework, but you should still write out the details of your computation. It is in your best interest not to become too dependent on your calculator since they will not be allowed on written assessments.

Note Sheets: **No notes are allowed on exams or quizzes.** This is a cross-section policy for all 1050 courses, and is out of my control.

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Grading

Type of Assessment	Assignment Category	Contribution to Grade	Adjustments (all drops are made at the end of the semester)
Formative	Homework	20%	Lowest two homework scores are dropped. Late homework will be accepted for 80% credit.
	Weekly Quizzes	15%	Lowest two quiz scores are dropped.
Summative	Three Midterm Exams	45% (15% each)	Your Final Exam Score can replace your lowest midterm score (as long as it's higher).
	Final Exam	20%	None.

Your final letter grade will be determined as follows:

Range	Letter	Range	Letter	Range	Letter
[93-100]	A	[77-80)	C+	[60-63)	D-
[90-93)	A-	[73-77)	C	[0-60)	E
[87-90)	B+	[70-73)	C-		
[83-87)	B	[67-70)	D+		
[80-83)	B-	[63-67)	D		

The instructor retains the right to modify this grading scheme during the course of the semester; students will, of course, be notified of any adjustments.

Absences

Real life happens and sometimes a student is unable to attend class due to illness, emergency, family, or other obligations. As adults you are responsible for your own time management; if you consistently miss class the only person you'll hurt is yourself. You do not need to notify me about your absence unless there is a quiz or exam on the day you're absent. If you contact me ahead of time and have a good reason for missing a quiz/exam I will almost certainly find a time to proctor a makeup. If you do not contact me, or try to schedule a makeup after the fact, you will receive a zero (with exceptions for emergencies that render you unable to contact me, which I may require documentation to verify). If there's a recurring issue that causes you to miss class (e.g. chronic illness or a family member you need to care for) please talk to me so that we can figure something out.

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Class Schedule and Important Dates

Official Drop/Withdraw Dates: The last day to drop classes is Friday, 1/17; the last day to withdraw from this class is Friday, 2/28. Please check the academic calendar for more information pertaining to dropping and withdrawing from a course. Matters of registration are the student's responsibility.

Tentative Schedule (Subject to change)

Week	Schedule Notes	Sections Covered	Assessments that week
1 (1/6-1/10)	*Last day to add/drop a class without the instructor's permission is Fri 1/10*	1.1-1.2	
2 (1/13-1/17)	*Last day to add/drop a class with the instructor's permission is Fri 1/17*	1.2-1.3	Quiz 1
3 (1/21-1/24)	*Martin Luther King Day: Mon 1/20 (no classes)*	1.4-1.5	Quiz 2
4 (1/27-1/31)		2.1-2.2	Quiz 3
5 (2/3-2/7)		2.2-2.3 & Review for Exam 1	Exam 1 on Friday 2/7
6 (2/10-2/14)		2.4-3.1	Quiz 4
7 (2/18-2/21)	*President's Day: Mon 2/17 (no classes)*	3.2-3.3	Quiz 5
8 (2/24-2/28)	*Last day to withdraw from a course is Fri 2/28.*	4.1-4.2	Quiz 6
9 (3/3-3/7)	*Spring break: 3/9-3/16*	4.2-4.3	Quiz 7
10 (3/17-3/21)		4.4 & Review for Exam 2	Exam 2 on Friday 3/21
11 (3/24-3/28)		4.5-6.1	Quiz 8
12 (3/31-4/4)		6.2-6.4	Quiz 9
13 (4/7-4/11)		6.4 & Catch up on material	Quiz 10
14 (4/14-4/18)		Catch up & Review for Exam 3	Exam 3 on Fri 4/18
15 (4/21-4/22)	*Last day of classes: Tue 4/22*	Review for the Final Exam	None this week
Finals Week (4/24-4/30)	**Math 1050 Final Exam Details: Date: Tuesday, 4/29 Time: 1-3PM Location: Will be announced in class closer to the date**		

Expected Learning Outcomes

At the end of the semester, students should be able to master the following skills:

1. Sketch the graphs of quadratic and cubic polynomials, rational, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and piecewise functions with or without transformations. Be able to identify important points such as x- and y-intercepts, maximum or minimum values; domain and range; and any symmetry.
2. Given the graph of a function, be able to identify the domain, range, any asymptotes and/or symmetry, x- and y-intercepts, as well as find a rule for the function if it is obtained from a standard function through transformations.
3. Perform composition of functions and operations on functions
4. Find the inverse of a function algebraically and graphically.
5. For polynomial, rational exponential and logarithmic functions, identify the x-intercepts, asymptotes, end behavior and domain from algebraic and graphic representations. Convert back and forth between algebraic, graphical and verbal representations.
6. Solve polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic equations and inequalities.
7. Represent and interpret physical world situations using exponential and logarithmic functions.
8. Perform matrix arithmetic computations.
9. Solve systems of linear and non-linear equations in two or three variables, including the use of Gaussian elimination and matrix inverses in the linear case.

Additional Policies and Resources

Student Etiquette

Respectful participation in all aspects of the course will make our time together productive and engaging. Lectures, discussion threads, emails and canvas are all considered equivalent to classrooms and student behavior within those environments shall conform to the student code.

Academic Misconduct

It is expected that students comply with University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Students are expected to adhere to the prescribed professional and ethical standards of the profession/discipline for which they are preparing. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty or who violates the professional and ethical standards for their profession/discipline may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: Policy 6-410: Student Academic Performance, Academic Conduct, and Professional and Ethical Conduct.

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code:

"...Includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one's work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information...It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct."

For details on plagiarism and other important course conduct issues, see the U's Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity: Academic integrity means that scholars, including students, conduct their work ethically. This includes taking credit only for work they themselves perform. Violations of academic integrity undermine the principle of fairness, devalue your degree, and leave you underprepared for applying what you have been taught. In this way, it defrauds you, your classmates, the university, and the people you will serve with your education after graduation. It includes cheating on tests and other assessments, collaborating on projects when not permitted to, presenting other people's work as yours (whether they agree to that), and more. Plagiarism is a serious offense against academic integrity that could result in failure for the test or paper, failure for the course, and expulsion from the university. Plagiarism usually involves passing off the work, words, or ideas of others as your own without giving proper credit.

Privacy Policy: FERPA, the federal law that guards student privacy, prohibits me from discussing your performance in this class with anyone except you without your permission, which must be on file with the university, not simply told to me. To ensure compliance with this law, send email with a university email address or via Canvas mail.

Out of respect for the privacy of your classmates, do not record or screenshot any part of this class for use outside of this class, even if you omit identifying information about the speaker or poster. You may not circulate or share images, clips, or other course materials with individuals who are not enrolled in this class. Doing so is a serious violation of our class ethical code and will result in a charge of academic misconduct.

Inclusivity Statement: It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, and veteran status, and other unique identities. gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, culture, and other unique identities. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students or student groups. In addition, if any of our class meetings conflict with your religious events, please let me know so that we can make arrangements for you.

Discrimination and Harassment: If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS). Please see Student Bill of Rights, section E http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php. I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.

Names/Pronouns. Canvas allows students to change the name that is displayed AND allows them to add their pronouns to their Canvas name. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name as well as "Preferred first name" (if previously entered by you in the Student Profile section of your CIS account, which can be managed at any time). While CIS refers to this as merely a preference, I will honor you by referring to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in class or on assignments. Please advise me of any name or pronoun changes so I can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun are respected. If you need any assistance or support, please reach out to the office of Student Affairs: Student Health and Wellness

English Language Learners. If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language and writing development. These resources include: the Writing Center (http://writingcenter.utah.edu/); the English Language Institute (http://continue.utah.edu/eli/). Please let me know if there is any additional support you would like to discuss for this class.

Undocumented Student Support. Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit dream.utah.edu.

Veterans Center. If you are a student veteran, the U of Utah has a Veterans Support Center located in Room 161 in the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. Please visit their website for more information about what support they offer, a list of ongoing events and links to outside resources: http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/. Please also let me know if you need any additional support in this class for any reason.

Wellness Statement. Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or 801-581-7776.

Student Success Advocates: The mission of Student Success Advocates is to support students in making the most of their University of Utah experience (ssa.utah.edu). They can assist with mentoring, resources, etc. Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact a Student Success Advocate for support (https://ssc.utah.edu/).

The Americans with Disabilities Act:
The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities.

All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access (CDA). CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. Prior notice is appreciated. To read the full accommodations policy for the University of Utah, please see Section Q of the Instruction & Evaluation regulations.

In compliance with ADA requirements, some students may need to record course content. Any recordings of course content are for personal use only, should not be shared, and should never be made publicly available. In addition, recordings must be destroyed at the conclusion of the course.

If you will need accommodations in this class, or for more information about what support they provide, contact:

Center for Disability & Access

801-581-5020
disability.utah.edu
162 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Addressing Sexual Misconduct:

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status, or genetic information.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to university officials:

Title IX Coordinator & Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

801-581-8365
oeo.utah.edu
135 Park Building
201 Presidents' Cir.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Office of the Dean of Students

801-581-7066
deanofstudents.utah.edu
270 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

To file a police report, contact:

Campus Police & Department of Public Safety

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)
dps.utah.edu
1735 E. S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

If you do not feel comfortable reporting to authorities, the U's Victim-Survivor Advocates provide free, confidential, and trauma-informed support services to students, faculty, and staff who have experienced interpersonal violence.

To privately explore options and resources available to you with an advocate, contact:

Center for Campus Wellness

801-581-7776
wellness.utah.edu
350 Student Services Building
201 S. 1460 E.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Campus Safety: The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more safety information and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.
To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, contact:

Campus Police & Department of Public Safety

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)
dps.utah.edu
1735 E. S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

University Counseling Center The University Counseling Center (UCC) provides developmental, preventive, and therapeutic services and programs that promote the intellectual, emotional, cultural, and social development of University of Utah students. They advocate a philosophy of acceptance, compassion, and support for those they serve, as well as for each other. They aspire to respect cultural, individual and role differences as they continually work toward creating a safe and affirming climate for individuals of all ages, cultures, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, languages, mental and physical abilities, national origins, races, religions, sexual orientations, sizes and socioeconomic statuses. More information about the counseling center, including ways to contact them, can be found here: https://counselingcenter.utah.edu/.

The Office of the Dean of Students The Office of the Dean of Students is dedicated to being a resource to students through support, advocacy, involvement, and accountability. It serves as a support for students facing challenges to their success as students, and assists with the interpretation of University policy and regulations. Please consider reaching out to the Office of Dean of Students for any questions, issues and concerns. 200 South Central Campus Dr., Suite 270. Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm. Their phone number is 801-582-7066.

Syllabus subject to change: This syllabus is meant to serve as an outline and guide for our course. Note that I may modify it with reasonable notice to you. I may also modify the Course Schedule to accommodate the needs of our class. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas.