Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

MTH 176 College Algebra
Effective Term: Spring/Summer 2025

Course Cover

College: Math, Science and Engineering Tech
Division: Math, Science and Engineering Tech
Department: Math & Engineering Studies
Discipline: Mathematics
Course Number: 176
Org Number: 12200
Full Course Title: College Algebra
Transcript Title: College Algebra
Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No
Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page
Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report
Change Information:
    Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.
Rationale: Master syllabus update needed. Variation is no longer taught, so I've removed that from course description. I've included some objectives that are regularly required in this course, and I've reorganized the outcomes to be organized similarly to the rest of the math department master syllabi
Proposed Start Semester: Winter 2025
Course Description: In this course, students will be provided with the necessary background for Pre-Calculus. Topics include properties and graphs of functions including transformations of parent functions, function composition and inverses, operations with complex numbers, polynomial functions of degree two and higher, polynomial division, roots of polynomials, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and properties, systems of linear and non-linear equations and inequalities, and applications related to the various topics in this course. A graphing calculator is required for this course. Successful completion of this course with a minimum grade of "C" will raise your Academic Math level to 5.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No
Credits: 4
Lecture Hours: Instructor: 60 **Student:** 60
Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0
Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 60 **Student:** 60
Repeatable for Credit: NO
Grading Methods: Letter Grades
Audit
Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

Level 4

Requisites

General Education
Degree Attributes
Assoc in Applied Sci - Area 3
Assoc in Science - Area 3
Assoc in Arts - Area 3
MACRAO Science & Math
Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA
MTA Mathematics

Request Course Transfer
Proposed For:
Eastern Michigan University
Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
Jackson Community College
Lawrence Tech
Michigan State University
Oakland University
University of Detroit - Mercy
University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze relations and functions; compare, graph, and perform operations on functions.
   ### Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions
   Assessment Date: Fall 2022
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All sections
   Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.
   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.
   Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

2. Examine polynomial and rational functions by graphing, solving equations, performing operations, and solving related applications.
   ### Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions
   Assessment Date: Fall 2022
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All sections
   Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.
   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.
   Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

3. Examine exponential and logarithmic functions by graphing, solving equations, exploring properties and their inverse relationship, and solving related applications.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions

Assessment Date: Fall 2022

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

4. Solve and graph systems of linear and non-linear equations and inequalities and related applications.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions

Assessment Date: Fall 2022

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All sections

Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.

Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

Course Objectives

1. Use parent functions (quadratic, square root, cubic, cube root, reciprocal, absolute value, and greatest integer function) with transformations to categorize and graph functions without a graphing calculator.
2. Describe a function, including domain and range, the intervals where a function is increasing/decreasing, and the relative maxima and relative minima of a function with the aid of a graphing calculator.
3. Graph and evaluate piecewise-defined functions.
4. Perform addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and composition with functions.
5. Determine whether a function is even, odd, or neither from its graph and its equation.
6. Find the inverse of a one-to-one function.
7. Solve radical and absolute value equations.
8. Create a linear model for a real-world application by writing a linear equation.
9. Perform operations on complex numbers
10. Complete the square for a quadratic equation.
11. Solve quadratic and other polynomial equations using strategies for finding zeros (including complex roots).
12. Graph linear and quadratic functions with and without the aid of a graphing calculator.
13. Graph polynomial functions of degree three or higher using properties of polynomial functions, as well as the aid of a graphing calculator.
14. Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials, including polynomial long division.
15. Graph rational functions and identify any horizontal, vertical, or slant asymptotes, zeros, and holes.
16. Solve polynomial and rational inequalities.
17. Interpret, solve and check solutions to polynomial and rational application problems, including projectile motion position problems.
18. Graph logarithmic and exponential functions.
19. Solve logarithmic and exponential equations.
20. Use properties of logarithms to expand and condense logarithmic expressions.

21. Interpret, solve and check solutions to logarithmic and exponential applications.
22. Solve linear and non-linear systems of equations using substitution and/or elimination, or determine the system is inconsistent or dependent.
23. Graphically represent solutions of linear and non-linear systems of equations and inequalities.
24. Solve 3-variable linear systems of equations, using Gaussian elimination and matrices (with and without a graphing calculator).
25. Interpret, solve and check solutions to applications of 2 and 3-variable linear systems.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks
Larson. *Precalculus with limits*, Latest Edition ed. Cengage, 2022, ISBN: 9780357711583.
Abramson. *PreCalculus*, 2e ed. OpenStax , 2021
Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities

Level III classroom
Testing Center
Data projector/computer

Reviewer	Action	Date
Faculty Preparer:		
Leslie Gilbert	*Faculty Preparer*	*Jul 16, 2024*
Department Chair/Area Director:		
Nichole Klemmer	*Recommend Approval*	*Jul 22, 2024*
Dean:		
Tracy Schwab	*Recommend Approval*	*Jul 23, 2024*
Curriculum Committee Chair:		
Randy Van Wagnen	*Recommend Approval*	*Mar 17, 2025*
Assessment Committee Chair:		
Jessica Hale	*Recommend Approval*	*Mar 27, 2025*
Vice President for Instruction:		
Brandon Tucker	*Approve*	*Mar 30, 2025*

MTH 176 College Algebra
Effective Term: Fall 2021

Course Cover

College: Math, Science and Engineering Tech
Division: Math, Science and Engineering Tech
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Discipline: Mathematics
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Reason for Submission: Three Year Review / Assessment Report
Change Information:
    Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.
    Outcomes/Assessment
Rationale: Three-Year Review
Proposed Start Semester: Spring/Summer 2021
Course Description: This course provides students with the necessary background for pre-calculus. Topics include graphs of functions including transformations, function composition, variation, polynomial functions of degree two and higher, polynomial and synthetic division, roots of polynomials, complex numbers, rational functions and equations, non-linear equations and inequalities, inverse functions, exponential functions equations and models, logarithmic functions equations and models and applications. A graphing calculator is required for this course. See the time schedule for the current brand and model. Successful completion of this course with a minimum grade of "C" will raise your Academic Math level to 5.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No
Credits: 4
Lecture Hours: Instructor: 60 **Student:** 60
Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0
Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

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Michigan Transfer Agreement - MTA
MTA Mathematics

Request Course Transfer
Proposed For:
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Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
Jackson Community College
Lawrence Tech
Michigan State University
Oakland University
University of Detroit - Mercy
University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Solve linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic equations and inequalities.
   Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions
   Assessment Date: Fall 2022
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All sections
   Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.
   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.
   Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

2. Graph linear, quadratic, polynomial rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic equations and inequalities.
   Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions
   Assessment Date: Fall 2022
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All sections
   Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.
   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.
   Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

3. Perform linear, quadratic, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functional operations.
   Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions
   Assessment Date: Fall 2022
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All sections
   Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.
   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.
   Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

4. Translate and solve linear, quadratic, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic applications.
   Assessment 1
   Assessment Tool: Outcome-related common departmental exam questions
   Assessment Date: Fall 2022
   Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years
   Course section(s)/other population: All sections
   Number students to be assessed: All students or a random sample of all students with a maximum of 100 students.
   How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric
   Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of students must score at least 70% on the common exam questions.
   Who will score and analyze the data: Full-time math faculty

Course Objectives

1. Write linear equations given the slope and a point or given two points.
2. Create a linear model for a real-world application.
3. Interpret, solve and check applications involving linear models.
4. Perform the basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division with functions.
5. Graph linear functions.
6. Graph polynomial functions.
7. Identify a parent function and list the transformations of a parent function.
8. Recognize and evaluate a composite function.
9. Add, subtract, multiply and divide polynomials.
10. Graph rational functions and identify the horizontal and vertical asymptotes.
11. Find the domain and range of a function.
12. Find the inverse of a function.
13. Solve radical, polynomial, rational and absolute value equations.
14. Use a graphing calculator to find the intervals where a function is increasing and where it is decreasing.
15. Use a graphing calculator to find the relative maxima and relative minima of a function.
16. Solve and graph non-linear inequalities.
17. Solve logarithmic and exponential equations.
18. Interpret, solve and check solutions to logarithmic and exponential applications.
19. Solve linear and non-linear systems of equations.
20. Use matrices to solve linear systems.
21. Use a graphing calculator to solve a linear system.
22. Interpret, solve and check solutions to applications of linear systems.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks
    Larson/Hostetler. *Precalculus with limits*, Latest Edition ed. Cengage, 2018, ISBN: 1337271187.
Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities
    Level III classroom
    Testing Center
    Data projector/computer

Reviewer	Action	Date
Faculty Preparer:		
Michael Quail	*Faculty Preparer*	*Dec 21, 2020*
Department Chair/Area Director:		
Lisa Manoukian	*Recommend Approval*	*Feb 02, 2021*
Dean:		
Victor Vega	*Recommend Approval*	*Feb 15, 2021*
Curriculum Committee Chair:		
Lisa Veasey	*Recommend Approval*	*Apr 08, 2021*
Assessment Committee Chair:		
Shawn Deron	*Recommend Approval*	*Apr 12, 2021*
Vice President for Instruction:		
Kimberly Hurns	*Approve*	*Apr 26, 2021*