

Instructor Information	
Instructor	Chesney Culver
Email	culvercb@lamarpa.edu
Phone	(409) 984-6574
Office	Student Center - Room: 414
Office Hours	Monday- Thursday 10 am - noon Friday 10 am -noon (by appointment only. Please email m to schedule an appointment.)
Additional Contact Information	Please do not use Blackboard to contact me. If you need to reach me please send me an email with your class ID and section number (DMTH 0310-72).
Course Information	
Description	Concepts of basic algebra. Operations on real numbers and polynomials, solving equations, inequalities and systems, graphing, and problem solving are included.
Required Textbooks	<i>Textbook Purchasing Statement: A student attending Lamar State College Port Arthur is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.</i> Elementary Algebra, 2nd Edition, by Openstax, 2020. This is an open source text, available for free online at: https://openstax.org/details/books/elementary-algebra-2e -All materials will be free and posted to the course's Blackboard page.
Additional Materials/Resources	While it is not required, students may find a calculator helpful. Students may use a TI 30 XS or a basic four function calculator. No other calculators will be allowed. The testing center and instructor will not provide calculators, if the student wishes to use one, they must bring their own.
Corequisites/Prerequisites	None. Please see LSCPA's placement guidelines for developmental math courses.
Learning Outcomes	1. Students will learn how to solve linear equations and applications 2. Students will determine the slopes, intercepts, equations and graphs of lines 3. Students will solve systems of equations in two variables by substitution and addition 4. Students will add, subtract, multiply, divide and factor polynomials 5. Students will translate, develop a strategy and solve related application problems 6. Students will utilize an outline learning system to demonstrate math proficiency
Core Objectives	- Communication skills: Students will demonstrate effective written, oral and/or visual communication. -Critical Thinking Skills: Students will engage in creative and/or innovative thinking, and/or inquiry, analysis, evaluation, synthesis of information, organizing concepts and constructing solutions. -Empirical and Quantitative Skills: Students will demonstrate applications of scientific and mathematical concepts.
Lecture Topics Outline	Lecture Topic Outline: Chapter 1 Foundations • 1.1 Introduction to Whole Numbers • 1.2 Use the Language of Algebra • 1.3 Add and Subtract Integers • 1.4 Multiply and Divide Integers

- [1.5 Visualize Fractions](#)
- [1.6 Add and Subtract Fractions](#)
- [1.7 Decimals](#)
- [1.8 The Real Numbers](#)
- [1.9 Properties of Real Numbers](#) [1.10 Systems of Measurement](#)

Chapter 2 Solving Linear Equations and Inequalities

- [2.1 Solve Equations Using the Subtraction and Addition Properties of Equality](#)
- [2.2 Solve Equations using the Division and Multiplication Properties of Equality](#)
- [2.3 Solve Equations with Variables and Constants on Both Sides](#)
- [2.4 Use a General Strategy to Solve Linear Equations](#)
- [2.5 Solve Equations with Fractions or Decimals](#)

Chapter 4 Graphs

- [4.1 Use the Rectangular Coordinate System](#)
- [4.2 Graph Linear Equations in Two Variables](#)
- [4.3 Graph with Intercepts](#)
- [4.4 Understand Slope of a Line](#)
- [4.5 Use the Slope-Intercept Form of an Equation of a Line](#)
- [4.6 Find the Equation of a Line](#)
- [4.7 Graphs of Linear Inequalities](#)

Chapter 5 Systems of Linear Equations

- [5.1 Solve Systems of Equations by Graphing](#)
- [5.2 Solving Systems of Equations by Substitution](#)
- [5.3 Solve Systems of Equations by Elimination](#)
- [5.4 Solve Applications with Systems of Equations](#)
- [5.5 Solve Mixture Applications with Systems of Equations](#)
- [5.6 Graphing Systems of Linear Inequalities](#)

Chapter 6 Polynomials

- [Introduction](#)
- [6.1 Add and Subtract Polynomials](#)
- [6.2 Use Multiplication Properties of Exponents](#)
- [6.3 Multiply Polynomials](#)
- [6.4 Special Products](#)
- [6.5 Divide Monomials](#)
- [6.6 Divide Polynomials](#)
- [6.7 Integer Exponents and Scientific Notation](#)

Chapter 7 Factoring

- [Introduction](#)
- [7.1 Greatest Common Factor and Factor by Grouping](#)
- [7.2 Factor Trinomials of the Form \$x^2+bx+c\$](#)
- [7.3 Factor Trinomials of the Form \$ax^2+bx+c\$](#)
- [7.4 Factor Special Products](#)

- [7.5 General Strategy for Factoring Polynomials](#)
- [7.6 Quadratic Equations](#)

Major Assignments Schedule

Important Dates to Remember:

01/21/2025 First Class Day

02/05/2025 Census Date

02/24/2025 Final day to drop without penalty

03/07/2025 All assignments from chapter one and two and Midterm One due at 4PM

March 10-14, 2025 Spring Break – no classes

04/04/2025 All assignments from chapter four and five and Midterm Two due at 4PM

04/18/2025 Good Friday – campus closed

04/18/2025 Final Day to drop with penalty

05/09/2025 All assignments from chapter six and seven and the Final Exam due at 4PM

05/15/2025 Last Class Day May 15

05/15/2025 Final grades for graduates due by 4:00 pm

05/16/2025 Final grades for all others due at noon

05/16/2025 Spring Commencement

Final Exam Date

May 9, 2025 - 4:00 PM

Grading Scale

Let x be the averaged final grade. Please note that the second letter “D” denotes this is a developmental math course.

Letter Grade	Range
AD	$x \geq 90$
BD	$80 \leq x < 90$
CD	$70 \leq x < 80$
DD	$60 \leq x < 70$
FD	$x < 60$

Determination of Final Grade

Homework: 30%

Quizzes: 10%

Chapter Tests: 10%

Midterm Exam One: 15%

Midterm Exam Two: 15%

Final Exam: 20%

Course Policies

Instructor Policies

-This syllabus is subject to change as needed throughout the semester. Any major changes will be accompanied by an announcement in class, via email, or posted on Blackboard.

-All relevant information about this course will be communicated to students using announcements posted on Blackboard. You will receive an email copy of each announcement but replies to those emails will not be monitored nor receive a response.

-Students should use their LSCPA email to communicate with the instructor; any communications from personal email accounts (gmail,yahoo,etc.) will be ignored.

-Students must use appropriate email etiquette when corresponding with the instructor; for example, complete sentences and a full subject line with your name and course name. Voice mail

messages should be clearly spoken identifying students' name, course, and return phone number.

- Emails or messages determined by the instructor to be rude or disrespectful will not be responded to and will possibly be forwarded to the student's department chair or program coordinator.
- Students may check their grades in their Blackboard gradebook. If the student wishes to discuss their grades, they may email the instructor and request an appointment to meet with the instructor or see the instructor during scheduled office hours. The instructor will not discuss any grades over email or phone calls.
- The instructor will not discuss a student's grades with anyone besides the student unless the instructor is given permission by LSCPA officials to do so.
- Students are responsible for informing the instructor if they are unable to access any course materials. There will be no late work or credit given for assignments missed for this reason.
- No late work, extensions or make-up work will be accepted. Please do not ask.
- If the instructor sees a need, she may require the quizzes and chapter tests be taken in a proctored environment. If this change occurs, the instructor will notify the students prior to the due dates.
- Attendance (including that in online courses) will be taken into account when determining borderline grades.
- While this is an online course, students will be required to come to LSCPA's campus to take three exams. All instruction will be delivered in an online format and all other assignments, besides the midterm and final exams, will be available online. Students are notified of this requirement on the first day of class to allow ample time for testing arrangements to be made. Please see course expectations below.

Attendance Policy

- Attendance (including that in online courses) will be taken into account when determining borderline grades.
- While this is an online course, students will be required to come to LSCPA's campus to take three exams. All instruction will be delivered in an online format and all other assignments, besides the midterm and final exams, will be available online. Students are notified of this requirement on the first day of class to allow ample time for testing arrangements to be made. Please see course expectations below.

Additional Information

Course Expectations:

Blackboard/MyOpenMath:

All of your course materials and assignments are accessible through MyOpenMath via Blackboard. You will not need to sign up for or log on to any outside website, as everything will be integrated fully into Blackboard. MyOpenMath is an open-source program and does not require any access code or payment before using. If this is the only course you are taking this semester, or if all of your other classes use open-source (OER) resources, you should consider opting out of the Seahawk Book Bundle program.

Students are only given three deadlines for the semester:

All assignments from chapter one and two are due 03/07/2025 at 4 PM.

All assignments from chapter four and five are due 04/04/2025 at 4 PM.

All assignments from chapter six and seven are due 05/09/2025 at 4 PM.

Students may work at their own pace as long as the assignments are completed by the given deadline. I have provided an "Assignment Schedule" in the "Course Documents" folder to help

students stay on track. All assignments are available on the first day of class so students may work as far ahead as they like (including exams).

Please note that all assignments in this course must be worked in order as they appear in Blackboard. You must complete the homework (practice problems) before you can access the corresponding quiz. You must complete the quizzes before you can take the corresponding chapter test. You must complete the chapter tests before you can take the Midterm or Final exams. Failure to complete the chapter assignments will prevent you from accessing the exams. Please plan accordingly. No late work will be accepted and no extensions will be given for students unable to access the exam(s) for this reason.

Homework (Practice Problems):

The homework sets must be worked in order, and multiple versions of each problem will be offered until a correct answer has been reached. You can even continue practicing new versions of each problem after getting a correct answer if needed (I recommend practicing each problem multiple times until mastery is achieved).

Quizzes and Chapter Tests:

The quizzes and chapter tests will be taken outside of class time and will not be proctored. Quizzes will have a 1 hour time limit and Chapter Tests will have a 1.25 hour limit. Quizzes will have 3 attempts and the best score will be used in the students gradebook. Chapter tests will have 1 attempt. If a student should experience technical difficulties during a chapter test that result in an incomplete test, then the student will be allowed a ONE time retake. This is a one time courtesy per semester and does not apply to any other assignments. The student must email the instructor within 24 hours of the first attempt to receive another attempt.

****Despite the lack of proctoring students are expected to take these tests and quizzes under the same conditions as the midterm and final exams (meaning, the student only uses scratch paper, a pencil, and an approved calculator). The purpose of this is to allow students to appropriately prepare for the exams in a low stakes and low stress environment. Students who study this way are far more likely to do well on the exams and thus pass the course.****

Mid-Term and Final Exams:

Please see "Testing Policies and Expectations" in the "Welcome" module in the course Blackboard for all exam requirements.

The Mid-Term and Final Exams must be taken on campus, in the testing center located in the Student Success Center building. Please check the hours of operation for the testing center before scheduling your exams. If you are unable to make it to campus due to any unusual yet verifiable circumstances (out-of-state travel for work, overseas military deployment, etc.), you must let the instructor know as soon as possible so other exam proctoring arrangements can be made. Failure to notify the instructor at least 5 business days in advance (with the exceptions of extraordinary circumstances) will result in a zero for the exam. The exams will be given on paper. Students must show all their work. Partial credit may be given for correct work. Any and all partial credit is at the instructor's discretion.

***In the event a student does not take one of the midterm exams (for any reason), the student will earn a zero on the exam. At the end of the semester the instructor will use the score the student earns on the final exam to replace the grade of zero. ***

In the event a student does not take both of the midterm exams, the student will earn zeros on both of the exams. At the end of the semester the instructor will use the score the student earns on the final exam to replace the first midterm exam grade. The second midterm exam grade will remain a zero.

PLEASE NOTE:

As an online student, you are granted the freedom and responsibility for scheduling and taking your exams at your convenience. Choosing to wait until the day of the deadline will not allow enough time to reschedule your exam in the event of an emergency. I highly recommend students schedule their exams at least 3 days prior to the deadline to allow themselves plenty of time in case something were to happen. (We all know that flat tires, car troubles, and illness wait for exam days). I will not offer any other make-up exams or testing alternatives once the exam deadlines have passed. If you miss one exam for any reason you will be given the chance to replace the grade with the score you earn on the final. There will be no extensions, make-up exams or extra credit outside of the opportunity listed above. Please do not ask.

Institutional Policies

MyLSCPA	Be sure to check your campus email and Course Homepage using MyLSCPA campus web portal. You can also access your grades, transcripts, academic advisors, degree progress, and other services through MyLSCPA .
Academic Honesty	Academic honesty is expected from all students, and dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated. Please consult the LSCPA policies (Academic Dishonesty section in the Student Handbook) for consequences of academic dishonesty.
ADA Considerations	The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Services Coordinator , Room 117, in the Student Success Center. The phone number is (409) 984-6241.
COVID 19 Information	The Lamar State College Port Arthur (LSCPA) Student Code of Conduct COVID 19 Policy requires students who have been diagnosed with COVID 19 to report their condition directly to their local health department. Students should also contact their course faculty to report their quarantine status. In addition, this policy requires all students to wear face coverings when directly exposed to COVID 19 in compliance with the criteria included in the policy. For more information please refer to the COVID 19 link on the LSCPA website.
Facility Policies	No food or tobacco products are allowed in the classroom. Only students enrolled in the course are allowed in the classroom, except by special instructor permission. Use of electronic devices is prohibited.
HB 2504	This syllabus is part of LSCPA's efforts to comply with Texas House Bill 2504.
Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect	As per Texas law and LSCPA policy, all LSCPA employees, including faculty, are required to report allegations or disclosures of child abuse or neglect to the designated authorities, which may include a local or state law enforcement agency or the Texas Department of Family Protective Services. For more information about mandatory reporting requirements, see LSCPA's Policy and Procedure Manual .
Title IX and Sexual Misconduct	LSCPA is committed to establishing and maintaining an environment that is free from all forms of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other forms of sexual misconduct. All LSCPA employees, including faculty, have the responsibility to report disclosures of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault (including rape and acquaintance rape), domestic violence, dating violence, relationship violence, or stalking, to LSCPA's Title IX Coordinator, whose role is to coordinate the college's response to sexual misconduct. For more information about Title IX protections, faculty reporting responsibilities, options for confidential reporting, and the resources available for support visit LSCPA's Title IX website .

**Clery Act Crime
Reporting**

For more information about the Clery Act and crime reporting, see the [Annual Security & Fire Safety Report](#) and the [Campus Security website](#).

**Grievance / Complaint /
Concern**

If you have a grievance, complaint, or concern about this course that has not been resolved through discussion with the Instructor, please consult the Department Chair.

Department Information

General Education and Developmental Studies

Chair: [Dr. Steven Zani](#)
Email: zanisj@lamarpa.edu
Phone: (409) 984-6431