

MSUBILLINGS	M 121 College Algebra
Section Number	Section 002 CRN 41165
Classroom	HSCT 107
Class Days	Monday-Wednesday-Friday
Class Time	11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Textbook	College Algebra 5th Edition by Robert Blitzer
Catalog Description	Prerequisite: M095 (Intermediate Algebra) or appropriate placement test score. Covers polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions
Course Goals & Purpose	The aim is threefold: to assure that students gain at least satisfactory understanding of basic concepts and theorems, to assure that students are able to carry out necessary calculations of reasonable length with ease, and to assure that students are able to solve problems using graphing calculators or computers. Tools of modern technology will be used frequently and crucial applications will be discussed to show the importance of the concepts. Critical thinking and problem solving skills will be emphasized throughout the course.
Calculator	Each student is required to have a graphing calculator and the manual that goes with it. You will be responsible for learning how to operate your own calculator. Bring your calculator to class and be prepared to use it. (The text gives some basic hints.) Your instructor will demonstrate using the TI-84+.
Instructor	Barb Pedula
Office Location	HSCT 104
Office Hours	Monday 12:40 to 1:40 p.m. Wednesday 10:20 to 11:20 a.m. Additional office hours are Friday 12:40 to 1:40 p.m. available by appointment.
Phone	247-3068
e-mail & web site	bpedula@msubillings.edu http://www.msubillings.edu/cotfaculty/pedula/
Courtesy	Please refrain from receiving or sending calls from cell phones during class. If the device must remain on during class, please set the ringer to vibrate.
University Policies	This course is governed by all MSU-Billings policies and procedures as specified in the Student Handbook. (http://www.msubillings.edu/studenthandbook) In particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policy of nondiscrimination in employment practices and in admission, access to and conduct of educational programs. • MSU-Billings also ensures academic program accessibility as well as building accessibility for all persons with disabilities. Any student person with disabilities concerned about accessibility and/or accommodation issues should contact Jennifer Woegens in the COT Academic Support Center or call her at 247-3029. • The Code of Student Conduct will be followed for any academic-related matter.

Helpful resources

- Tutoring is available on a drop-in basis at the COT Academic Support Center from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.
- Online tutoring is now available at http://www.msubillings.edu/asc/Online_Tutoring_Center.htm
- Tutoring is also available on the other MSU-Billings campus on Mon-Thur from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.; on Fri from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and on Sat from 9 a.m. to noon.
- Your instructor has office hours. These hours are dedicated to students and their questions.
- Your classmates make great study groups. Get to know and work with each other.

Grading Policy

Chapter Exams

There will be four exams throughout the semester. Each exam is worth 100 points. It is possible that one of the exams or a portion of an exam may be a take home exam. **No make-up exams** will be given unless the student receives permission to take an exam prior to exam day. You may request to make up an exam; however, be prepared to have the request denied.

Homework Notebook and Graded Assignments

Maintaining a homework notebook is strongly suggested. The notebook will not be collected nor graded. Course Compass software called MyMathLab is included with this course to assist in your studies.

There will be at least five specific hand-written homework assignments given, collected, and graded throughout the term. Graded homework assignments are due at the start of the following class. Each homework assignment will be worth 10 points. The quizzes assigned in MyMathLab, each worth 10 points, also count as graded homework scores. **No late homework will be accepted** for a grade. Homework assignments will be posted on the website following class. Only the scores from the 10 best graded homeworks/MyMathLab quizzes will be used to determine the “homework grade.”

Final Exam

A cumulative final exam will be given at the end of the semester. The final is worth 200 points. The final exam percentage score can be used to replace a low score on one of the four exams, OR the graded homework total.

Attendance and Participation

Success in this course depends highly upon student participation and attendance. If a class is missed, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain class notes and suggested homework problems from another student. Class notes from the SMARTboard are posted on the Barb Pedula’s website.

Grading scale according to percentage

A	94 or higher	C+	77 to 79
A-	90 to 93	C	70 to 76
B+	87 to 89	D	60 to 69
B	84 to 86	F	59 or lower
B-	80 to 83		

Safety tips	The evacuation of building in case of fire, earthquake, violence, extreme weather, etc. will follow the route posted in the classroom. Make sure that you are familiar with the designated route of evacuation.
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Keep track of your grades. At any time during the semester you may figure grade by averaging your exam scores with the average percentages of your homework scores.

HW1 ____ HW 2 ____ HW 3 ____ HW 4 ____ HW 5 ____ and possibly HW 6 ____ HW 7 ____ .

MML 1 ____ MML 2 ____ MML 3 ____ MML 4 ____ MML 5 ____ MML 6 ____ MML 7 ____

Exam 1 ____ Exam 2 ____ Exam 3 ____ Exam 4 ____ .Current Homework Average _____

Be responsible!

Be prepared!

Be inquisitive!

Be courteous!

Work with each other!

Ask questions!

Get help when needed!

Remember that you are responsible for yourself!