

College Algebra (Math 8), Fall 2018, San José State University
MacQuarrie Hall 323, TR noon–1:15pm (Sec. XX, code 90210)

Instructor: Dr. Tim Hsu (pronounced “shoe”).

Office and phone: MacQuarrie Hall 419, (408)924-5071.

Office hours: TR 9:30–10:30, TR noon–1:30. Current schedule available at:
<http://www.math.sjsu.edu/~hsu/courses/generic/sched.pdf>

E-mail: tim.hsu@sjsu.edu. I can be reached by e-mail at many times of the day, and will try to respond within 24 hours.

Course web page: <http://www.math.sjsu.edu/~hsu/courses/8/>

Texts: *College Algebra and Calculus: An Applied Approach*, Larson and Hodgkins, **2nd edition**. Make sure you have the second edition and not the first.

Calculator: You should have a “scientific calculator” (e.g., TI-30X) for use on exams. You are *not* allowed to use either a graphing calculator (e.g., TI-83) or a calculator that can do symbolic algebra (e.g., TI-89 or TI-92) on exams.

Learning objectives. In this course, you will master the algebra skills required for later math classes; understand and apply fundamental ideas about functions; and study some specific types of functions. Also, as with any GE math course, you will use mathematical methods to solve quantitative problems, including real-life problems, and arrive at conclusions based on numerical and graphical data.

You will achieve these learning objectives, as well as the minimum writing requirement of 500 words for a GE class, in homework, quizzes, and exams.

Math 8W Workshops. Math 8W is a 1 unit class (two sessions/week) in which you will work in teams on problems, aided by workshop facilitators. You are not required to take Math 8W, but our experience has been that students in workshops are more successful than students who are not.

Class. Bring your textbook and calculator to class every day. Class will consist of lecture, group activities, and discussion. Please silence all cellphones before class.

Time expectations. You should be aware that the standard expectation for a 3-unit class at SJSU is that you will spend at least 9 hours per week working on this class (i.e., at least 6 hours outside the classroom).

Reading. Do the assigned reading before anything else, i.e., before the topics come up in class or in the homework. Read *all* of the text, and not just “the stuff in the boxes.” The course web page will always have a complete list of all reading assigned to date.

Homework. Homework will be due every class day, except for exam days; for more details, see the handout on homework. Specific assignments will be determined as the term progresses. For a complete list of all homework assigned to date, see the course web page.

Quizzes. Once a week, except exam weeks, we will have a closed-book in-class quiz (no notes, calculators OK). Our first quiz will be on **Tue Aug 28**.

Exams. The exam dates are described in the syllabus below. *You must plan to take the exams at their scheduled times.* In particular, previous travel arrangements are not a valid excuse, so do *not* leave campus before the common final on **Sat Dec 15, 9:45am–noon**.

Exam policies. All exams will be closed-book. Calculators are allowed (though not the TI-89, TI-92, and similar calculators), and you are also allowed to bring one 3×5 card of notes. Exams are primarily based on the reading and the homework, so the best way to prepare for exams is to do all of the reading and the homework.

Grading. Semester grade is: Homework 10%, Quizzes 5%, Exam 1 15%, Exams 2 and 3 20% each, and Final exam 30%. Grades given: A, A–, B+, B, B–, C+, C, C–, D+, D, D–, F. Letter grades are adjusted by difficulty of exams, and do not correspond to a fixed percentage; details will be given as the semester proceeds. Note that you need to get a C– or better to satisfy the Area B4 (Mathematical Concepts) GE requirement.

How to add this course. If you are not registered for this course, and you would like to add it, you must first put a full effort into completing all of the work in the course. Second, if you are a graduating senior, you need to produce documentation to verify that.

I'll make a waiting list, which you get on by filling out and turning in the information form for the course. I'll give out add codes starting **Mon Sep 10** (or possibly earlier), mainly based on completeness of homework, and as long as there is room, I will continue to give out add codes until add date (**Fri Aug 31**). Note, however, that graduating seniors have the highest priority, and that Open University students have the lowest priority.

How to drop this course. Until **Mon Sep 10**, you can drop at my .sjsu.edu. Nothing will appear on your transcript, but please let me know if you drop.

To drop after Mon Sep 10, you must go to the student services center and submit a Course Drop form to the Director of Academic Services. Dropping under these circumstances is only allowed for "serious and compelling reasons" (University policy). A low grade is not a serious and compelling reason.

Academic integrity. Your commitment to learning (as shown by your enrollment at SJSU) and SJSU's Academic Integrity Policy require you to be honest in all of your academic course work. Faculty are required to report all infractions to the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. See: www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct

Disabilities. If you need course adaptations or accommodations due to a disability, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities register with the Accessible Education Center (formerly the Disability Resources Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Tentative Syllabus

Date	Reading	Date	Reading
Tue Aug 21	1.1	Tue Oct 23	3.4
Thu Aug 23	1.2	Thu Oct 25	Review
Tue Aug 27	1.3	Tue Oct 30	4.1
Thu Aug 29	1.4	Thu Nov 01	4.2
Tue Sep 04	1.5	Tue Nov 06	4.3
Thu Sep 06	1.6	Thu Nov 08	4.4
Tue Sep 11	1.7	Tue Nov 13	4.5
Thu Sep 13	Exam 1	Thu Nov 15	Review
Tue Sep 18	2.1	Tue Nov 20	Exam 3
Thu Sep 20	2.2	Thu Nov 22	NO CLASSES
Tue Sep 25	2.4	Tue Nov 27	5.1
Thu Sep 27	2.5	Thu Nov 29	5.2
Tue Oct 02	2.6	Tue Dec 04	5.3
Thu Oct 04	2.7	Thu Dec 06	Review
Tue Oct 09	3.1		
Thu Oct 11	Exam 2		
Tue Oct 16	3.2	Sat Dec 15	FINAL EXAM
Thu Oct 18	3.3		9:45am–noon

Tutoring. Peer tutoring is available to all SJSU students, free of charge, through:

- The College of Science Advising Center (www.sjsu.edu/cosac)
- Peer Connections (peerconnections.sjsu.edu)