

Algebra I

Instructor: Amy Witt
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M.S. Mathematics, University of Mississippi

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Class fees: The total fee for the class is \$400 or \$50 per month from August through April, plus the cost of the textbook. There is also a one time supply fee of \$15.

Required Textbook: We will use the VideoText Interactive Algebra Complete Course program. DO NOT go out and purchase this entire curriculum. Please contact me directly so that I can advise as to which modules will be needed for the course.

Required Materials: Binder, loose leaf paper, graph paper, pencils, erasers, scientific (ACT approved) calculator - TI-30XIIS is the preferred calculator. If you already have a calculator, don't go buy a new one for the class, but if you don't have one, the one listed above is preferred.

Class Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays
10:30-11:30
FBC Fannin, 101 Church Rd., Brandon, MS 39047

Course Description: Algebra I provides a formal development of the algebraic skills and concepts necessary for students to succeed in advanced courses. Topics include:

- operations with rational numbers
- equations and inequalities
- linear equations and inequalities
- systems of equations and inequalities
- properties of exponents
- polynomials and factoring
- solving quadratic equations

Prerequisites: Students entering this course should be proficient performing basic arithmetic operations (adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing) whole numbers, positive and negative numbers, fractions, and decimals. Students should also be familiar with the proper order of operations when evaluating expressions. Some previous exposure to variables and solving simple one and two step algebraic equations would be helpful but is not required.

Evaluation: Homework assignments will be given at each class meeting. Some of these assignments may be taken up and graded. It is the student's responsibility to be sure that their homework assignments are completed before coming to class. I will go over homework questions for the first few minutes of each class meeting. Student grades will be based on graded homework assignments, quizzes, tests and class participation. Because we only have two 1 hour class meetings a week, most of our quizzes and tests will need to be taken at home in order to preserve as much time as possible for classroom instruction. Unless specifically stated otherwise, take home tests and quizzes will not be open notes or open book. A parent will need to administer the test or quiz to ensure that the student finishes in a timely manner. I do plan to have a few in class tests and quizzes. It is important that students learn to take timed tests in the classroom environment as they will be expected to do this as part of their college experience.

How to succeed: Algebra I is a foundational class for students as it will give the students the background they need for the remainder of their academic life. The concepts taught in Algebra I are necessary skills that will be needed for Algebra II, Geometry, ACT success along with any other high school or college level math and science classes. It is very important that students stay on track and not get behind. These concepts will continually build on each other so it is vitally important that each student obtain a thorough understanding of each concept as we go. If you feel that your student is falling behind, contact me as soon as possible so that we can see that they get the extra help they need in order to be successful in the class. Also, a great online free resource is [khanacademy.org](https://www.khanacademy.org).