

Math 106-02¹ (Algebra and Elementary Functions)

Fall Semester 2025

Lecture: MW 5:30 – 6:45pm Physics 101

Instructor: Ahmet Kaan Aydin

Office: Shermann Hall 139

Office hours: Tuesdays from 13:00 to 15:00 at Shermann Hall 139

Contact via email for virtual appointments.

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Textbook: Mark Dugopolski, Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, 4th Edition. This course is participating in the Course Materials Initiative. You do not need to purchase a hard copy of the textbook if you do not wish to. **Access to ALEKS Mathematical Literacy System is required.**

Testing and Grading: The usual grading system will be used in this course as follows:

Grade	Score (%)	Point Range
A	90% – 100%	810 - 900
B	80% – 89%	720 - 809
C	70% – 79%	630 - 719
D	60% – 69%	540 - 629
F	0% – 59%	0 - 539

ALEKS Learning Objectives	Best 16, of 21	=	100 points	(11%)
ALEKS Pie Chart		=	100 points	(11%)
Group Quizzes	Best 5, each 10 points	=	50 points	(6%)
Quizzes	Best 5, each 30 points	=	150 points	(17%)
Exams	3, worth 100 points each	=	300 points	(33%)
Final Exam		=	200 points	(22%)
	TOTAL	=	900 points	(100%)

You're responsible for keeping track of assignment, quiz, and test due dates.

Content: Algebra and Elementary Functions (Math 106) is an introduction to the basic techniques and functions of mathematics. This course is especially recommended for those students who need to brush up due to a shaky high school preparation or for those who haven't had a mathematics course in several years. Topics include linear equations and inequalities; quadratic equations; polynomials; and rational functions and their inverses, including the exponential and the logarithm.

Attendance and Behavior: Attendance is not required but crucial to success in this class. New content will be covered at a rapid rate, and if you fall behind, it will be very difficult to catch up. **There will be no make-ups or extensions on homework or quizzes.** Quiz and Homework drops exist because life happens; there will be no quiz makeups for any reason. Make-up exams will be given **at my discretion**, in general only in situations where there is a conflict with a **sanctioned university activity or religious holiday** of which I have been notified **at least a week in advance**. Such activities may include things like a course conflict or an athletic event.

¹Last updated: August 22, 2025

ALEKS: Assignments will be completed online through the ALEKS platform. A document with detailed instructions is provided in BlackBoard. Some of the highlights of assignments include:

- You are responsible to complete all ALEKS assignments by their due dates. **Carefully follow the deadlines provided.**
- You can still complete assignments after the due date, this will provide you partial credit and progress on Pie Chart.
- **NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED ON ASSIGNMENTS!**

ALEKS is significant portion of your grades and provides valuable practice for the course material. **You are expected to fully complete all ALEKS assignments.**

Quizzes: There are **7** quizzes throughout the term. The lowest **2** quizzes will be dropped. Each quiz will be graded out of 30 points. 5 quizzes at 30 points each, adds up to a total possible 150 points. Each quiz will be approximately 20 minutes long and administered at the start of the class at the dates described in the course schedule. No make-up quizzes are allowed for any reason.

Exams: There will be three exams given during lecture:

- Exam 1: **Monday, September 29, 2025**
- Exam 2: **Monday, October 27, 2025**
- Exam 3: **Wednesday, November 19, 2025**

Exams are held in the same room as your usual lecture. All exams will be **closed-notes, closed-books, no calculators**. A missed exam will be counted as a zero. See the attendance policy, above, for the only exceptions to this rule.

Final Exam: The final exam in this course will be a common final (all sections of Math 106 will take the same final at the same time). The location for the final will be announced as soon as possible.

- Final: **TBA**

Final exam will be closed-notes, closed-books, no calculators. **There will be no makeups for the final exam.**

No Calculators: It is also important to note that this is a non-calculators course. This might differ pretty heavily from your previous math courses in high school or at a community college. **You will not be allowed to use a calculator on quizzes or exams** (and we will attempt to make the numerical parts straightforward enough that you won't need them). This also means that we will use exact numerical representations (like $\sqrt{2}$ or π) wherever possible, rather than decimal approximations (like 1.41425... or 3.14159...).

Academic Integrity: By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include but is not limited to suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult the UMBC Student Handbook, the Faculty Handbook, or the UMBC Policies section of the UMBC Directory. <http://www.umbc.edu/provost/integrity/faculty.html>

Academic integrity is a core value at UMBC and I expect that value to be reflected in your coursework. You must cite any outside sources you use for homework. You may not use any outside sources for exams or quizzes. You may be asked to have a one-on-one meeting with me to discuss course material. If your responses are substantially different from work you've submitted, you may face an allegation of academic dishonesty, which can result in a zero for the assignment in question and a report of academic misconduct.

Accessibility and Disability Accommodations, Guidance and Resources: Accommodations for students with disabilities are provided for all students with a qualified disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA & ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who request and are eligible for accommodations. The Office of Student Disability Services (SDS) is the UMBC department designated to coordinate accommodations that creates equal access for students when barriers to participation exist in University courses, programs, or activities.

If you have a documented disability and need to request academic accommodations in your courses, please refer to the SDS website at sds.umbc.edu for registration information and office procedures.

SDS email: disAbility@umbc.edu
SDS phone: 410-455-2459

If you will be using SDS approved accommodations in this class, please contact the instructor to discuss implementation of the accommodations. During remote instruction requirements due to COVID, communication and flexibility will be essential for success.

Campus Safety: The following sections refer to campus policy on harrassment, violence, and other issues. All policies and forms can be found at ecr.umbc.edu.

Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, and Gender Based Violence and Discrimination UMBC Policy in addition to federal and state law (to include Title IX) prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in University programs and activities. Any student who is impacted by sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, gender discrimination, pregnancy discrimination, gender-based harassment, or related retaliation should contact the University's Title IX Coordinator to make a report and/or access support and resources. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached at titleixcoordinator@umbc.edu or 410-455-1717.

You can access support and resources even if you do not want to take any further action. You will not be forced to file a formal complaint or police report. Please be aware that the University may take action on its own if essential to protect the safety of the community.

If you are interested in making a report, please use the Online Reporting/Referral Form at https://umbc-advocate.symplicity.com/titleix_report/index.php/pid364290?. Please note that, if you report anonymously, the University's ability to respond will be limited.

Notice that Faculty and Teaching Assistants are Responsible Employees with Mandatory Reporting Obligations

All faculty members and teaching assistants are considered Responsible Employees, per UMBC's Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Harassment, and Gender Discrimination. Faculty and teaching assistants therefore required to report all known information regarding alleged conduct that may be a violation of the Policy to the Title IX Coordinator, even if a student discloses an experience that occurred before attending UMBC and/or an incident that only involves people not affiliated with UMBC. Reports are required regardless of the amount of detail provided and even in instances where support has already been offered or received.

While faculty members want to encourage you to share information related to your life experiences through discussion and written work, students should understand that faculty are required to report past and present sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, stalking, and gender discrimination that is shared with them to the Title IX Coordinator so that the University can inform students of their rights, resources, and support. While you are encouraged to do so, you are not obligated to respond to outreach conducted as a result of a report to the Title IX Coordinator.

If you need to speak with someone in confidence, who does not have an obligation to report to the Title IX Coordinator, UMBC has a number of Confidential Resources available to support you:

Retriever Integrated Health (Main Campus): health.umbc.edu 410-455-2472; Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; For After-Hours Support, Call 988.

Center for Counseling and Well-Being (Shady Grove Campus): 301-738-6273; Monday-Thursday 10:00a.m. – 7:00 p.m. and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (virtual) Online Appointment Request Form <https://shadygrove.titaniumhwc.com/>

Pastoral Counseling via The Gathering Space for Spiritual Well-Being: 410-455-6795; i3b@umbc.edu; Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Other Resources

Women's Center (open to students of all genders): <https://womenscenter.umbc.edu/> 410-455-2714; womenscenter@umbc.edu; Monday – Thursday 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Friday 10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Shady Grove Student Resources (<https://ecr.umbc.edu/shady-grove-title-ix-resources/>), Maryland Resources (<https://ecr.umbc.edu/maryland-resources/>), and National Resources (<https://ecr.umbc.edu/national-resources/>)

Child Abuse and Neglect

Please note that Maryland law and UMBC policy require that faculty report all disclosures or suspicions of child abuse or neglect to the Department of Social Services and/or the police even if the person who experienced the abuse or neglect is now over 18.

Pregnant and Parenting Students

UMBC's Policy on Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Harassment and Gender Discrimination expressly prohibits all forms of discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, including pregnancy. Resources for pregnant, parenting and breastfeeding students are available through the University's Office of Equity and Civil Rights. Pregnant and parenting students are encouraged to contact the Title IX Coordinator to discuss plans and ensure ongoing access to their academic program with respect to a leave of absence – returning following leave, or any other accommodation that may be needed related to pregnancy, childbirth, adoption, breastfeeding, and/or the early months of parenting.

In addition, students who are pregnant and have an impairment related to their pregnancy that qualifies as disability under the ADA may be entitled to accommodations through the Office of Student Disability Services.

Religious Observances & Accommodations

UMBC Policy provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs, and that students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of any intended absences or requested modifications for religious observances in advance, and as early as possible. For questions or guidance regarding religious observances and accommodations, please contact the Office of Equity and Civil Rights at ecr@umbc.edu.

Hate, Bias, Discrimination and Harassment

UMBC values safety, cultural and ethnic diversity, social responsibility, lifelong learning, equity, and civic engagement.

Consistent with these principles, UMBC Policy prohibits discrimination and harassment in its educational programs and activities or with respect to employment terms and conditions based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, gender, pregnancy, ancestry, age, gender identity or expression, national origin, veterans status, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or genetic information.

Students (and faculty and staff) who experience discrimination, harassment, hate, or bias based upon a protected status or who have such matters reported to them should use the online reporting/referral form (https://umbc-advocate.symlicity.com/titleix_report/index.php/pid954154?) to report discrimination, hate, or bias incidents. You may report incidents that happen to you anonymously. Please note that, if you report anonymously, the University's ability to respond may be limited.

Class website: Course information and content (including this syllabus, homework assignments, access to WebAssign, recorded lectures, practice material, and much more) will be available at the Blackboard website: <http://my.umbc.edu/go/blackboard>