

Options for College Algebra

The Department of Mathematics offers students a choice of four course formats for College Algebra. Each course format will satisfy the university mathematics core requirement.

- College Algebra (MAT 101) The traditional college algebra course is taught as a lecture course. Students attend two or three classes per week, do online homework outside of class, and take paper tests in class. Students enrolled in MAT 101 taught as a lecture course have the option of taking advantage of Math Zone resources. See <http://www.usm.edu/mathzone>
- College Algebra (MAT 101*) The Zone college algebra course is taught as a combination lecture/lab. Students attend one class per week and spend three hours in the Math Zone, an interactive mathematics computer lab. Students take online tests in the Math Zone. On the Department of Mathematics Fall 2008 schedule, Zone classes are denoted with an asterisk. See <http://www.usm.edu/mathzone>
- Explorations in College Algebra (MAT 101E). The explorations college algebra course is taught in a classroom setting. Students will be engaged in oral presentations, written summaries, group discussions, as well as individual written tests and online homework. The focus on real world applications makes this course particularly appealing to students in liberal and fine arts, social science, biology and elementary education. See <http://www.usm.edu/math101e>
- College Algebra (MAT 101-X0##) The online college algebra course is taught totally online. Students will access lectures, homework and tests online with the exception of two proctored exams. The course is not self-paced but follows the same time schedule as the traditional course. Students with an ACT math sub-score of 21 or above will find the online college algebra a viable option. Visit the Web page at <http://www.usm.edu/lec/onlineclasseval.php> and take the quiz there to see if online learning is for you.

Graphing calculators will NOT be allowed on tests in any college algebra course format with the exception of Explorations in College Algebra (MAT 101E) where they are required for data analysis.