

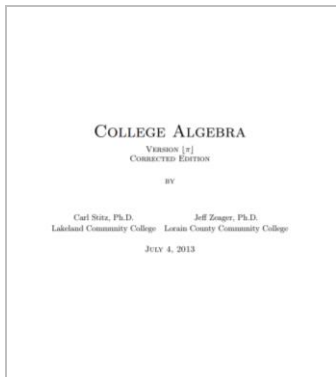


## Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education ([www.cool4ed.org](http://www.cool4ed.org)). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextbooks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

### College Algebra



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Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

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Format

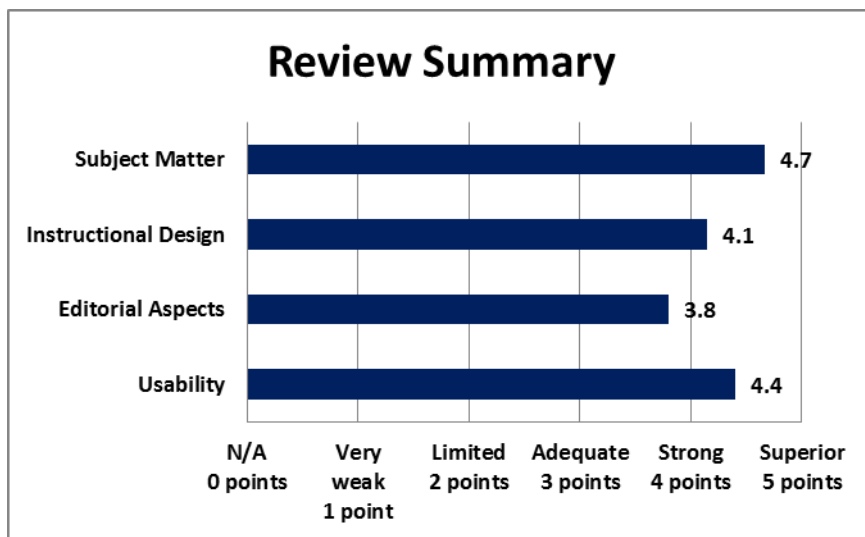
Reviewed:

[Online](#)

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Date Reviewed:

August 2015



### California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [MATH 151](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?						X
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?					X	
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?						X

Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?					X	
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?						X
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)						X

Total Points: 28 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- Based on the title of the book, "College Algebra" by Seitz & Zeager suggests that it is meant for Algebra in preparation for a higher level Mathematics. The Preface was written well and its purpose was specifically defined. The Table of Contents is very organized. The topics were arranged showing the main ideas of the authors; everything was explained in detail showing how the chapters were developed chronologically and interrelated with each other. Reading the whole book created a sense of comfortability for the discussion of the topics was as if it were a non-Math book.
- In comparison with the books in Precalculus, the first chapters were designed as if one were teaching a Precalculus class. However, the topics discussed is intended more to a Precalculus class rather than College Algebra (though the title is for College Algebra). It was just a matter of excluding the Trigonometry part such as unit circle/right triangle approach. Unlike other Math books, the procedural way of discussing the solutions and proofs were very nicely written, very detailed which is a great approach in a student's learning.
- What is noticeable about the book is if one looks/refers to the graphs/ figures, there were no labels given. More often than not, there will be confusion for the graphs/figures lack labels and difficulty of locating e.g. Figure 1.1, etc. which other Mathematics books have.

<b>Instructional Design (35 possible points)</b>	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?					X	
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)					X	
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?					X	
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?						X
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?					X	
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)					X	
Is the textbook searchable?					X	

Total Points: 29 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

<b>Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)</b>	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?						X
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?					X	
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)					X	
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)						X
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)		X				

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook.

- If book is to be offered online multimedia elements such as graphics, animations and audio must be present and exercises interactive.
- I hope the document whether in word doc or PDF is accessible to all types of students.

Usability (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?					X	
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)					X	
Can the textbook be printed easily?						X
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?					X	
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?						X

Total Points: 22 out of 25

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook.

- One aspect which is not shown is having/creating a hyperlink, if in case, a certain topic is being referred to in another chapter of the book.

Overall Ratings	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?						X
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
			X			

Total Points: 7 out of 10

## Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- Excellent explanation; discussion of topics are very detailed and interrelated with each other from one topic to another.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- Labels of figures and graphs missing e.g. short description of images must be given as an alt+text - if figures and graphs are read online, students who are visually impaired will have a hard time to understand them using screen readers.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#)  
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