

Recommended Open Educational Resources for an Undergraduate Course in College Algebra I

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Two open educational resources are recommended for an undergraduate course in College Algebra I:

1. **College Algebra by Jay Abramson**

URL: <https://openstax.org/details/books/college-algebra>

PreCalculus by Jay Abramson is designed to meet the needs of undergraduate students who are taking College Algebra I. The textbook covers all topics for a typical College Algebra course. The content is well-organized and there is a logical order to topics. Every chapter is divided into modules and at the beginning of each module are clearly defined learning objectives. Every chapter contains some very attractive supporting features. There are “How-To” sections which give a step-by-step guide to understanding the solution of the subsequent worked examples. There are also “Try-it” sections following every worked example where the student is encouraged to work out a problem similar to the worked example. In addition, at the end of every chapter is a summary and a list of important takeaways from the chapter. Definitions are clear, concepts are well-explained, graphs and diagrams are appropriate and beautifully illustrated. There is a wide variety of worked examples and exercises as well as a practice test at the end of every chapter. Answers to selected exercises are also provided. There are many excellent real-world applications that students can relate to. This textbook is also accompanied by additional resources for students and instructors – for example, an Instructor’s Solutions manual and PowerPoint slides can be made available to faculty upon request, and there is also a free Student Solutions manual. This textbook is one of the best College Algebra textbooks I have seen and is highly recommended. The language is clear, concise, and friendly. I feel confident that students will enjoy using this textbook and will have a rewarding experience with College Algebra.

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2. **College Algebra by Carl Stitz Ph.D. & Jeff Zeager Ph.D.**

URL: <https://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks/textbooks/college-algebra>

This textbook adequately covers the main topics covered in a College Algebra I or PreCalculus I course. Its tone is friendly and conversational, and the rigor is appropriate for undergraduate students taking this course. The book is lengthy, but institutions can easily adapt the content to suit their curriculum. There are some explanations that are verbose and some paragraphs that are too long, but the language is clear. It is a well-structured textbook with many worked

problems and exercises. What is especially attractive about this book is that there are solutions to every problem. I would not recommend this resource as the main textbook for this course, but it would work well as a supplemental textbook. It would be a good resource for the instructor and would provide more practice for the student who needs additional help or possibly even a new way of approaching a problem.

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