Have you had a rocky relationship with science and math problems? Do your knees start to shake when you see a problem that’s longer than a single short sentence? But in college, success in a science or math course depends, to a great extent, on your ability to solve complex problems. The exams that you will take and the homework you will complete contain a lot of tough problems. In “The Problem With Problems,” you will begin to learn the skills that you need to tackle those tough problems. We will start by taking a look at why problem-solving plays such an important role in science and math learning. At the same time, we will work on improving your problem-solving skills and help you learn to leverage your problem-solving so that you can master the big concepts behind the problems.

### Introduction to Chemical Principles

This course familiarizes students with the foundational concepts and models of modern chemistry while emphasizing problem solving and critical thinking skills that will support students’ success as they continue their studies. Fundamental mathematical techniques and skills are incorporated to illustrate the quantitative aspects of chemistry and to develop student ability to model quantitative systems.

### College Algebra

This course begins by building familiarity with functions, including notation and the rate of change in a function. Linear functions, including lines of best fit, are discussed. Evaluation, identifying domain and range, and the basics of composition and inversion of functions follow. Quadratic and polynomial functions are introduced along with roots and extrema of quadratic functions. Exponential and logarithmic models are discussed with a focus on applications. Finally, transformations of functions are covered. College algebra is a calculus preparation course and as such has a strong algebraic focus.

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**NEXT STEPS**

After you’re registered for your FIG, you will want to check out the Meet Your FIG page (https://fyp.uoregon.edu/fall-2022-figs). This page will have everything you need to know before the beginning of fall term, including how to email your FIG Assistant, your summer assignment, and when you will be meeting your FIG for the first time in September. In order to prepare for your coursework and be notified about important academic deadlines you will want to download the “Canvas” and “Navigate” apps to your devices. Also, be sure to visit the FYE Community page in September, which has all the resources you’ll need to achieve success in your first-year (https://fyp.uoregon.edu/community). If you have questions about anything, make sure you email your FIG Assistant — they are here to help!