Math B1A: Precalculus I Syllabus Fall 2015

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Course Meetings: in MS104
Section 3: M-Th 2:35 – 3:40 pm (15 min less on M&W)
Section 4: M-Th 4:20 – 5:10 pm (15 min less on M&W)

Office Hours: These will be in the classroom where we usually meety, MS104.
Mondays & Wednesdays: 3:25 – 4:20 PM, 5:10 – 6:00 PM
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 3:40 – 4:20 PM, 5:25 – 6:00 PM

Prerequisites: A grade of “C” or better in Math BD or equivalent placement.

Text: Precalculus by Cohen, 7th edition. (You do not need to purchase hard copy)
We will cover most of chapters 1 – 5, 11, and 13.

Please read carefully: This classes utilizes a software called WebAssign. You will be required to purchase and use this software for the class (instructions on last page). This software contains online homework and quizzes. This software is NOT optional. Any student who is registered in this course during the first week must show at least 60% completion of current WebAssign work by February 4. Failure to do this will result in being dropped from the course for lack of academic progress. Those who get registered during the second week will be granted a one week extension based on the day they enrolled.

Wait-listed students: Students on the wait list are not eligible to attend lecture (but they MUST show up for the beginning of lecture on the first day of class, or they will be dropped from the wait list). Wait list students are responsible to check the roster daily to see if they became officially enrolled in the course. If this happens, you are responsible to get registered on WebAssign and complete at least 60% of the current online homework within 1 week of the day of your registration.

Warning: Any student, officially enrolled or wait-listed, who does not show up to the beginning of lecture on the first day of class will be dropped. Registering on WebAssign does not protect you from being dropped because of not showing on that first day. You may register for this course on WebAssign without paying immediately. Once you access your account, you have about two weeks before you need to pay, so there is no excuse not to get started immediately!

Required for Class: WebAssign (since this software contains an e-text for the book, you do NOT need to purchase a hard copy of the text, and it costs far less to only purchase the access key). You will also need a scientific or graphing calculator. Cell phones used as calculators are NOT ALLOWED on any in-class exam.

Attendance & Participation: Regular attendance is essential to succeed in this course. Lectures will help you grasp the course material and give you a chance to ask questions about anything that isn’t clear. Attendance will be taken for every lecture up to the last day to withdrawal. If for some reason you miss class, you are responsible to obtain information from your classmates about what you missed. Contacts from the class should be made prior to missing a class. You may be dropped from the course for being absent for two or more weeks of classes (total of 8 days) prior to the last day to withdrawal.
Student Learning Outcomes:
1. The student will become proficient in defining and developing the concept of “function”, including domain range, graph, inverse, and algebra of functions (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, composition).
2. Techniques of graphing polynomials, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, using intercepts, asymptotes, multiplicity, symmetry, translations, and reflections.
3. Solve exponential and logarithmic equations and their applications.
4. Solve a system of non-linear equations and inequalities, by graphing and algebraic methods.
5. Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra and its consequences. Determine the possibilities for rational roots of polynomial equation, and obtain information about the number of positive, negative, complex roots.

Homework: Your homework will be assigned regularly on WebAssign. You should be working on it regularly. Please be aware of the due dates. There is a percentage that shows how much you have completed with currently due assignments. WebAssign will remember what you have completed so far, and updates itself every time you submit a correct problem. Feel free to ask how to do a problem, and I'll go over it in class (as time permits). I strongly recommend working in groups outside of class.

Chapter Quizzes: There are also quizzes in WebAssign, one for each chapter completed. When a chapter is completed in class, you have one week to submit the quiz for that chapter.

Midterms: There will be 2 in-class midterms, one (as the name implies) half-way through the semester, and the other at the very end of the semester, prior to the final exam. The first half of the material covered will be on the first midterm, and the second half will be on the second midterm.

Final Exam: The final exam will cover the same material covered on the two midterms, so together they form an excellent review for the final exam.

Grading: Your grade will be determined as follows:
Homework 20%, Quizzes 20%, Midterms 30%, Final Exam 30%

Cheating: There will be a zero tolerance policy on cheating. A first offense will result in a zero for that assignment and possibly mention on their permanent record. A second offense will receive more drastic measures with a possibility of failing the course.

Accommodations: Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Disabled Student Programs & Services located at Student Services Building, 1st Floor, Counseling Center (661-395-4334), as soon as possible to better ensure such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

Creating a WebAssign Account: On the internet, open http://www.WebAssign.net/ and click on “I Have a Class Key” in login box area. Enter your Class Key:

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When you first login, you will have an option to Purchase Access Online, to Enter an Access Code, or to Continue My Free Trial Period (20 days remaining). If you bought a hard copy of the text (optional), then it may have come with a WebAssign access code (It would be a separate small
package). If not you can purchase the code either online or purchase it from the BC bookstore. If you use this book previously, you can re-use the access code again. You have the option to click free trial – you will continue to see the purchase options until you enter an access code. (Recall – registering on WebAssign does not save your seat on that first day) If you have any questions, contact customer support at (800) 955-8275. Please contact customer support for any technical questions throughout the semester.