Syllabus for MA 105, College Algebra
Fall 2005

Instructor: Qinghong Zhang
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Office Hours: 12:00—1:00, 3:00—4:00 MWRF, and by appointments
Class Time: 2:00—2:50 MTWR
Place: NSF 1705

This course satisfies the Foundations of Natural Science/Mathematics requirement.

Students who complete this course should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of mathematical logic; use mathematics to solve scientific or mathematical problems in college classes; express relationships in the symbolic language of mathematics; and appreciate the role of probability and statistics in analyzing natural phenomena.

Course Description: Algebra of real and complex numbers. Algebra of polynomials. The function concepts. Linear, quadratic, polynomial functions. Inverse functions, exponential and logarithmic functions. Polynomial, exponential and logarithmic equations. System of equations. Matrices and determinants.

Prerequisite: A grade of **B-** or better in MA100, or satisfactory score on the Math Placement Exam.

Textbook: College Algebra, 4th Edition by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin and Saleem Watson.

Software: TI Interactive graphic software can be loaded to your ThinkPad for free at the Help Desk in LRC.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all the classes. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the class.

Homework, Quizzes and Tests: Homework will be assigned for each class. Quizzes will be given on Thursdays. I will drop the 2 lowest quiz scores. There will be four tests tentatively scheduled for 09/15/05, 10/06/05, 10/27/05 and 11/17/05, and a two-hour final exam (12/14/05) during the final exam week. Each test counts 15% toward the final grade. The final exam counts 25%. Quizzes will be the remaining 15% toward the final grade. It is important to take the quizzes and exams at the scheduled time. Generally, no make-ups will be given.

Grading: 90%—100% is an A. 80%—89% is a B, etc.

Disabilities: If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock (227-1700; TTY 227-1543). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.