

Syllabus for MA 115, Precalculus Fall 2006

Instructor: Qinghong Zhang

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Office Hours: 12:00—1:00, MWRF, 3:00-4:00, MWR, 2:00---3:00 R, and by appointments

Class Time: 11:00—11:50 MWRF

Place: WS 3803

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: Trigonometric functions of real numbers. Trigonometric graphs. Trigonometric functions of angles. The laws of sines and cosines. Trigonometric identities. Trigonometric equations. Parabolas. Ellipses. Hyperbolas. Polar coordinates.

Prerequisite: A grade of **B-** or better in MA104, or grade of **C-** or better in MA105, or satisfactory score on the Math Placement Exam.

Textbook: Precalculus, 5th 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 Fridays. I will drop the 2 lowest quiz scores. There will be four tests tentatively scheduled for 09/15/06, 10/06/06, 10/27/06 and 11/16/06, and a two-hour final exam 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.