

Course Syllabus
MATH 1314.15
Pre-Calculus Algebra (3 credit hours)
Fall Semester 2017

Instructor: Kevin Harris

Class Meeting Time: TR 12:30pm-1:50pm

Class Meeting Place: LDB 402

Office: LDB 404

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Office Hours: MW 2:00pm-2:50pm except for department meetings, TR 2:00pm-4:00pm
or by appointment, Fridays strictly by appointment

Objective: This course is designed for those students who need preparation beyond two years of high school geometry before taking the calculus sequence. In this course the student is expected to obtain an understanding of:

- The principles involved in the algebra of real and complex numbers
- The concept of a function and how to use algebraic and geometric properties to study properties of functions
- How to use functions and algebraic principles to model and solve real-world problems

Description: Topics include a brief review of introductory algebra, variation, elementary theory of equations, functions (including exponential and logarithmic) inequalities, systems of equations, and other related topics. Prerequisites: Two years of high school algebra and one year of high school geometry. Credit 3.

Textbook: *College Algebra*, 8th edition, by Aufmann

Exams, Quizzes/Homework, Final Exam, and Grade: There will be *quizzes/homework*, *3 exams (if time permits)*, and a *comprehensive final exam*. Due dates, quiz dates, exam dates, etc. will be posted on Blackboard. The final class average is calculated as follows:

Homework average 35%

Exam average 45% (15% each)

Final exam (comprehensive) 20%

Unless you have a medical emergency, homework cannot be submitted by email and must be handed in person to me the day it is due. You cannot make-up a homework assignment or quiz. You will be allowed to make-up an exam only in the case of an excused absence (see below).

Calculator: You must have a calculator that can evaluate roots, powers, exponentials, and logarithms (a scientific calculator will do this). **You cannot use your cell phone as a calculator. You cannot borrow a calculator during a quiz or an exam.** You may usually use a graphing calculator on an exam, but will not be allowed to use a graphing calculator on parts of some exams.

During an exam, your cell phone should be stored securely in such a way that it cannot be seen or used. The visible presence of such a device during an exam may result in a zero on the exam and is considered de facto evidence of cheating.

Attendance: You should make every effort to attend all classes. If you are absent from class or know you will be absent from class, please notify me (in person, via phone message or email) as soon as possible as to the nature of your absence. An absence is excused only in cases of medical emergencies, death in the family, or school sponsored events. To excuse an absence, you must provide the following:

- 1) A written note with the dates of your absence, the date that you returned to class, and the reason for the absence.
- 2) A document to verify the reason for your absence (e.g. signed doctor's note)

The written excuse must be provided to me **no later than the day that you return to class.**

Further Notes:

Academic Honesty – The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf

Religious Holy Days – Students are excused from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. As a courtesy, it is appreciated if you notify me in advance and in writing of the dates and times that are to be missed so that appropriate arrangements can be made regarding homework and/or exams. http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/861001.pdf

Students With Disabilities Policy – It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate

strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

Classroom Etiquette - Students will refrain from behavior in the classroom that intentionally or unintentionally disrupts the learning process and, thus, impedes the mission of the university. Students are prohibited from eating in class, using tobacco products, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times, wearing inappropriate clothing, or engaging in any other form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result in a directive to leave class. Students who are especially disruptive also may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy. <http://www.shsu.edu/students/guide/StudentGuidelines2010-2012.pdf#page=29>

Visitors in the Classroom – Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>