Math 104 :: College Algebra :: Winter 2013

This is the syllabus for Math 104-02 and Math 104-03. See the links to the right for updated information. Here you'll find information on prerequisites, grading policy, homework, study resources and a tentative course calender.

Textbook

The (required) textbook we will use for this course is *Algebra and Trigonometry* by Larson. I will use the Eighth Edition, which is available at the University Bookstore. It is pictured below.

![Algebra and Trigonometry by Larson](image)

Other editions will be very similar, but the exercises will occasionally differ. If you have a different edition, find a friend with the eighth edition to make sure the exercises you work match your friend's. This is an excellent text, it is carefully written with clear explanations, it motivate the subject and has lots of examples.

Class

Class will be held in *West Science 1705*, unless otherwise noted on the following days & times.

- Math 104-02: 10:00 a.m., Mon-Wed-Thur-Fri
- Math 104-03: 11:00 a.m., Mon-Wed-Thur-Fri

Office Hours

I am often in my office *NSF 1115*, you are free to stop by and see if I am available. My official office hours are

- Wednesday: 3pm - 5pm
- Thursday: 1pm - 3pm
- Friday: 1pm - 2pm

Attendance

Regular attendance is expected. Important dates can be found [here](#).

Grading

- Homework 25%
- Team Quizzes 5%
- Exams 45% (3 @ 15% each)
- Final 25%

WeBWork

Homework will be administered via *WeBWork*, and is due each Monday at 8am. Any additional written homework will turned in on Monday. Help can be found [here](#).
Quizzes
Unannounced team quizzes will be given on occasion. Some quizzes will be
group quizzes. *Teams of two* will be chosen randomly before each group quiz.

Exams
- Exam 1 - February 1
- Exam 2 - March 1
- Exam 3 - April 5
- Final - (MA104-02) :: Tuesday, April 30 :: 10 am - 11:50 am
- Final - (MA104-03) :: Thursday, May 2 :: 10 am - 11:50 am
*Make sure that you will be able to attend the exams at the given dates
and times. Exceptions can only be accepted in case of time conflicts with
other courses, or serious illness with a physician’s certification.* [Final Exam
Schedule]

You need a C- or better in MA 100 or satisfactory score on the Math Placement
Exam. You *should be familiar* with the ideas on page *one* of this sheet.

Calculators & Graphing Software
Calculators and graphing software will often be used in class and will be
allowed on Some exams and quizzes. Unless otherwise notified, you are *not
allowed to have any information saved* in your calculators during quizzes and
exams. You are not required to have a calculator, since there are many free
online graphing calculators available. [FooPlot.com, Desmos.com]

Laptops
In order to promote a focused learning enviroment, *Do not use your laptop in
class unless instructed to do so.*

Other Resources
The link on the right *College Algebra Resources* contains links to mostly free
sites & documents that will help you get off on the right foot. Both free and paid
tutoring is available, in the tutoring lab in NSF 3810.

Outcomes & Assessment
Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:
- Students will choose and set up appropriate mathematical models to
describe real-world problems.
- They will understand the characteristics of various mathematical functions
(linear, exponential, logarithmic, logistic, trigonometric, quadratic, power
functions).
- Students will also distinguish such functions from another in terms of the
way in which they change.
- Students will use calculators and computer software to set up and solve
problems using graphs, tables, and formulas.

*Evaluation of these learning outcomes will be done through a mix of
assignments, class exercises, projects, research papers, group work, written &
oral quizzes and tests.*

Course Description
We will first develop a strong foundation of numbers and their properties by
focusing on the terminology and basic concepts of real numbers and the
common functions on them. We will study carefully the behavior of functions
and use this knowledge to solve some interesting real-world problems.

Foundations Requirement
This course satisfies the Foundation of Natural sciences/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 mathematics in analyzing natural phenomena.

**University Policies**

**Academic Honesty:** Cheating is not only unethical and pathetic, but is a violation of the Northern Michigan University [Student Code and University Policy](#) and grounds for your dismissal from the University.

**Discrimination & Harassment:** Northern Michigan University does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, height, weight, martial status, handicap/disability, sexual orientation or veteran status. If you have a civil rights inquiry, contact the [Affirmative Action Office](#) at 906-227-2420.

**Americans with Disabilities Act Statement:** The University seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of [Disability Services](#) in the Dean of Students Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock Building (227-1700). at 906-227-1700 as soon as possible. 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.

**The Registrar:** Withdrawing from any course or any matters relating to registration are the responsibility of the student. For more information regarding this topic, check out the [Registrars Website](#).