

Course syllabus – MA104 – Winter 2013

Class Time and location: 8:00 AM M,T,W, R WS 3803

Instructor: Richard Balding

Office: NSF 1111

Phone: 227-1595 (Office)

e-mail: rbalding@nmu.edu

Office hours: M,W,R 10-11:50 am, T 10-10:50 am, F 11-11:50 am
or by appointment

MA104 objectives are aimed at extending the student's knowledge and abilities with the manipulations and applications of algebra and beginning trigonometry. At the completion of this course, a student should be able to :

- * Successfully manipulate and work with functions, including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions. Assessment – tests.
- * Successfully solve equations including linear, quadratic, fractional, exponential and logarithmic equations. Assessment – tests.
- * Successfully solve triangles using SOHCAHTOA, law of sines and law of cosines. Assessment – tests.
- * Successfully set up and solve application problems of the types of all methods listed above. Assessment – tests.

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.

Requirements:

- 1) Attendance is important. . You will receive an attendance grade (as a test grade), based on your per cent attendance. In case of an illness, you will be responsible for keeping up with class work (e-mail me for assignments missed). **On days of tests or quizzes, you must call or e-mail me before class to be excused.**

- 2) Homework will be assigned at the end of most classes. Most of the time the homework will not be collected, but is essential to the learning of the material. The best way to learn math is to do math. A standard rule for success for most students in this course is 2 hours of homework/study for every hour of class – you are done with the homework when you know the material, not when you finish the problems. The homework problems simply give you practice to see if you have learned the material (also gives different looks at the same topic).
- 3) Your final grade will be determined from a combination of the points achieved from your collected homework (if any), quizzes, tests and the final exam. There will be 7 or 8 tests and the final (and possibly quizzes on smaller amounts of material). The final will be worth about 1 ½ tests. Extra credit will only be in the form of extra credit problems on tests. There are no “do overs” on tests. . You may drop the lowest test score (attendance test grade may be counted as a test **only if it is above 80%** - otherwise, it will be the test dropped).

Required Materials:

- 1) Algebra and Trigonometry, Eighth Edition, by Ron Larson, Brooks/Cole, 2011.
- 2) Scientific or graphing calculator.

Grading scale: (Approximate)

90-100%	A's
80-89.9%	B's
70-79.9%	C's
60-69.9%	D's
below 60%	F

DISABILITY SERVICES

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). 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.