MATH105: PRECALCULUS – FALL 2010

Instructor: Dr. Harbir Lamba
Phone: 703 993 1489
E-mail: hlamba@gmu.edu (only email me from your official GMU email account please)
Office: Science and Technology I, Room 239
Office Hours: Monday 4.30–5.00 and Wednesday 2.00–2.30 or by appointment.
Webpage: http://math.gmu.edu/~harbir/m105/


The Course: We will be covering most of Chapters 1–7

Homework questions will be set after each section is completed. These will not be collected or graded but you are STRONGLY advised to attempt them and write out your solutions as if they would be. You are encouraged to discuss these problems amongst yourselves and to make use of the office hours. I will go through the majority of the homework questions in the next class and/or post them on the web, but you will not benefit from this unless you have attempted them properly beforehand. Note that the above list of homework questions is the ABSOLUTE MINIMUM you should be doing each week. All of the odd-numbered questions in the book have solutions in the back and you should attempt as many of those as you feel you need to.

The course will be evaluated with 4 (1 hour long) in-class tests on Wednesday September 22nd, Wednesday October 13th, Monday November 8th, and Wednesday December 1st. Your 3 best results (relative to the class average for that test) will each contribute 20% towards the evaluation and the remaining 40% will come from a (cumulative) final exam on December 20th. I shall explain the grading system in more detail in the first lecture\(^1\). If you miss more than one of the in-class exams then you will need to provide very good (and well-documented) reasons for missing EACH of them. There will be no make-up tests or ‘extra-credit’ assignments. You are expected to abide by the University Honor Code and all suspected violations will be reported to the Honor Committee. No outside materials will be allowed during any of the examinations.

Additional Remarks:

1) Feel free to ask questions in class. It makes things more interesting for everyone, myself included.

2) There is help available for this course at the Math Tutoring Centre. Also, the grader Tom Stephens has kindly offered to hold office hours too. See the webpage for details.

3) If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703 993 2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office.

4) It is YOUR responsibility to regularly check the course webpage and your official university email address for announcements.

5) Please check the course webpage or this handout for the answers to any questions you may have before emailing me.

6) Turn off all electronic devices including PDAs, ipads, phones and laptops. If I see anyone texting in class I will throw them out.

\(^{1}\)NOTE: I DO NOT GRADE ON A CURVE. The formula I use to rank you depends upon the class average but the grade boundaries are determined by absolute, not relative, performance!