

MATH 106 College Algebra**SYLLABUS** (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**FALL 2011**

Section 12: MTWThF 11:10-noon (Fulm 201)

Section 13: MTWThF 1:10-2pm (Coll 220)

INSTRUCTOR: Christy Jacobs Email: cjacobs@math.wsu.edu
Office: Neill 213
Office Hours: TBD, and by appointment
Website: <http://www.math.wsu.edu/math/faculty/cjacobs/106>

TEXT: Precalculus, at Washington State University, Custom text by Coburn, published by McGraw Hill

Note: You will get the most out of each lecture having read the sections to be covered PRIOR to each class. It is impossible for the instructor to cover every bit of material in the book. Note that you are still responsible to know all of the material.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENT: ALEKS Student Access Code (comes bundled with your custom text, or can be purchased online at www.aleks.com). ALEKS (Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces) is an on-line learning system that:

- Provides a Cycle of Assessment and Learning
- Provides Clear Explanations and Immediate Feedback

Offers 24 Hour Unlimited Online Access. This will be a primary learning tool for you that will be used as your routine homework and practice with the fundamental concepts you are learning. The website is: www.aleks.com.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: We will be working with the following classes of functions: polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic. For each class of functions, we will work with domains and ranges, graphs, special properties, applications, and solving equations. By the end of the course you should be very well acquainted with each class of functions, any special properties associated with each, their general shapes, and be able to solve problems and equations involving them. These are the functions that will be used in later classes such as calculus, physics, biology, and engineering.

CLASS CONDUCT: Respect each other and treat others as you want to be treated. If I feel you are disrupting the class or are disrespectful of anyone, I may ask you to leave. Success in this class requires diligence in reading the book, listening to and asking questions in lectures, and doing homework. YOU choose whether or not to work toward success for YOURSELF. Do not come to my class to read the newspaper. PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE AND ANY OTHER ELECTRONICS DURING CLASS.

ABSENCES and MAKEUPS: Attendance is not required, but it is STRONGLY SUGGESTED! You will not be allowed to make up work missed, and late work will NOT be accepted. Assignments such as homework may be handed in early if you know you will miss the due date. You are responsible for letting me know **ahead of time** if you will be gone for an exam. If you have an **excused** absence, we will set up a time for you to complete the exam you miss. Only I will determine if you have an excused absence. Note that **we will have pop quizzes that cannot be made up.**

KEEP TRACK: Please retain all assignments and exams. These will help you to study for the final exam as well as to keep accurate records of your grades. In other words, do not ask me to calculate your grade. You should be able to do this yourself. See the attached Grade Tracker to assist you.

STUDY ASSISTANCE: My office hours – Free Tutoring in the Math Department – Free Tutoring in Stephenson “Down Under” – Study groups with others in the class – **Read/Use your book** – Student Solutions Manual on reserve at Owen Science Library – Private Tutor (for a fee, a list can be found in the Math Department, Neill 103).

EXAMS: There will be 2 exams PLUS a comprehensive final examination. The dates are listed on the course calendar.

Please note these dates immediately on your calendars. Any absences that are not prearranged with me will not be excused. Regular exams are worth 100 points each and the comprehensive final is worth 150 points. Make-up exams are given only in rare cases and only if it is clear to me that you have made every effort to notify me of the problem as soon as possible. **Make-up exams are typically more difficult than the original exam. Note the date for the final - according to university policy, no early exams may be given.**

There will be no calculator use at all for quizzes and exams.

Please note that you absolutely must **SHOW ALL WORK** on any assignment. **Often you will need to explain how and why you got the answer on the exams.** Calculators will not help you with such explanations. Please remember, therefore, if you use a calculator when doing your homework, it is best to use the calculator ONLY as a check to see if your answer is reasonably correct. **DO NOT DEPEND ON YOUR CALCULATOR.**

POP QUIZZES: There will be 8 pop quizzes throughout the semester to test your knowledge of material that has been covered. They are designed to help you determine what you still need to work on when studying and also to motivate you to keep up with the material. You will be able to drop your two lowest scores (a missed quiz is a zero). Save these dropped quizzes for emergencies. That is what they are for!! All you may use is a writing utensil and your brain. **NO CALCULATORS!** Each quiz is worth 25 points.

HOMEWORK and ALEKS PROGRESS IN LEARNING MODE:

- As stated in the student handbook, you can expect two hours of homework for each hour in class (That means at least 10 hours a week!!!). If you do not have this kind of time, be prepared that your chance of passing this class successfully will be greatly compromised.
- Before each class you should be reading from your text.
- Part of your Homework will be problems given through the on-line supplement called ALEKS (2.5 points). ALEKS homework assignments will be due at 8am on the day that Homework is due.
- The remaining portion of your Homeworks will be assigned from your text (7.5 points). The written portion of the Homework is due **AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS** on the due date, with the exception of those due on exam days. You may turn in the written portion of “exam day” Homework at the exam. You are strongly encouraged to work with one another on the Homework. Form study groups and work together. However, you must write up the Homework on your own. Copying someone else’s work, whether it is a classmate or a previous student is considered cheating.
- In addition to the ALEKS portion of Homework, you are required to make steady progress in the learning mode of ALEKS. There are 8 due dates and your ALEKS Progress grade will be determined based on whether or not you have completed the target number of topics. If you do meet the target by the deadline, you will receive 5 points. No score will be dropped.
- While ALEKS is an on-line learning environment, you are also expected to work the problems using pencil and paper. Buy a notebook or composition book specifically for doing your ALEKS computations. Each day when you work on ALEKS, *date your work and do it in the notebook*. The neater and more organized your work is, the better it will be as a resource when you prepare for the exams and use it as a reference while you are doing your problem sets.
- More on Homework (VERY IMPORTANT):
 - The written assignments are **DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS**. You will be able to drop your one lowest score (there are 11 assigned Homeworks). Save this drop for an emergency! The assignments are posted online. **ANY ASSIGNMENT THAT IS NOT STAPLED WILL RECEIVE A ZERO (0)**. I will not provide a stapler. The written portion of the Homework must include:
 - Heading:* Name, Math 106 **section #**, Problem Set #, and instructor’s name in the top right corner
 - Top of page:* List the assignment that is due. (see example Homework Heading)
 - Throughout the homework:* **Problem statements** and *solutions* must be written out in order with sufficient work shown neatly and legibly.

CORRESPONDENCE: When communicating with your instructor (for this or any class) by email, note, or telephone, keep in mind that this is essentially a business relationship. If you were going to email a client, your boss, or a subordinate, you would [hopefully] use complete sentences, proper capitalization, and proper punctuation. This is what I expect of your correspondence with me. I may not respond to an email/note if you do not follow the guidelines above, or I may just correct your email/note and return it. You are a student attending a university who will someday have a bachelor’s degree, so you should present yourself as such. Please include **YOUR NAME, COURSE, AND SECTION NUMBER** when corresponding with me, as it will allow me to give you a quicker and more accurate response to any questions that you may have.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Disability Resource Center (DRC). All accommodations **MUST** be approved through the DRC (Washington Building, Room 217). Please stop by or call 509-335-3417 to make an appointment with a disability specialist.

WSU SAFETY MEASURES: Washington State University is committed to maintaining a safe environment for its faculty, staff, and students. Please visit <http://safetyplan.wsu.edu> and <http://oem.wsu.edu/emergencies> to access the Campus Safety Plan and emergency information.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Please note that we take extremely seriously the university’s policy on the need for academic honesty in all your work. Any form of dishonesty in an assignment will lead to a zero on an assignment and we reserve the right to give a grade of F for the course as well. If needed, Student Affairs will be contacted. Visit the following site for more information regarding what constitutes academic dishonesty and the WSU procedures for handling cases of academic dishonesty.
<http://www.conduct.wsu.edu/default.asp?PageID=343>

GRADES: Final grades are *final*. Grades are based strictly on the point system and grade scale given here. A clerical error is the only valid reason for changing a course grade. Materials are graded based **only** on the information that you conveyed on assignments, quizzes, and exams.

GRADE TRACKER

Exams (100 points each)	
1	
2	
Total	

Homework** [written + ALEKS] (10 points each)	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
Total**	

Progress (5 points each)	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
Total**	

Quizzes** (25 points each)	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
Total**	

Total	
Exams	/200
Homework**	/100
Progress	/40
Quizzes**	/150
Initial Assessment	/10
Your total points (so far)	
Total points possible (so far)	500
Divide YOUR TOTAL Points by the TOTAL POSSIBLE Points to find out your current overall score.	
Round score to the nearest tenth of a percent.	
CURRENT SCORE:	

**Remember to drop your ONE lowest homework score and your TWO lowest quiz scores before adding.

EXAMPLE HOMEWORK HEADING:

		Butch T. Cougar
		Math 201-5
		HW #1
		Jacobs
0.7	# 59, 65, 70, 89, 96	
0.8	# 25, 43, 45, 62, 75	
1.1	# 6, 12, 21	