MATH 141 DE:
Precalculus I
Syllabus – Spring 2010

INSTRUCTOR:
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Mount Vernon, WA 98273-5899

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COURSE TEXT/MATERIALS:
1.) Access Code for MyMathLab (can be purchased online) - REQUIRED
2.) A graphing calculator is also required. TI-82, TI-83, TI-84, TI-86, TI-89 will work fine.
3.) A TI-Connectivity Kit (computer/calculator silver link cable that may have been included with your calculator) is required.
4.) Precalculus, Concepts through Functions, Sullivan & Sullivan, Pearson - OPTIONAL

NOTE: You may purchase the Access Code for MyMathLab and just use the online text. A hardcopy of the book is not necessary. If you prefer to have a paper copy you can purchase a similar and older text by the same authors for less online. Calculators are available to rent for $20 per quarter. See Beth Oshiro in A-222 if interested, or you may find a good deal at a pawn shop.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course covers fundamental topics of algebra, including: polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions, and their graphs; system of equations; inequalities; curve sketching. It is the first quarter of a two-quarter precalculus experience. It combines daily homework, activities, exams, and skill quizzes to help you better understand and synthesize the material.

COURSE PREREQUISITE:
Intermediate Algebra (Math 99) with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent math placement score.

GRADING:

30% - Exams (4 - online)
20% - Final Exam (In person – 50% needed to pass the course)
10% - Skill Quizzes
20% - Activities
20% - MyMathLab Online Homework

I will follow the scale below for points accumulated and will use + and - grades as well.

• A: 90 - 100%,   • B: 80 - 89%,   • C: 70 - 79%,   • D: 60 - 69%,   • E: 0 - 59%
E-LEARNING REQUIREMENTS:
Taking a class via distance education puts a tremendous responsibility on the student. In addition to academic considerations, you should also consider your learning style, strengths, and preferences before enrolling in an online class. This course will be appropriate for you if you are self-motivated, goal-oriented and work well independently. Please seriously consider the following in regard to your success in this course:

- Do you have a compelling reason or goal to complete the course?
- Are you self-disciplined?
- Are you comfortable following written instructions?
- Do you have a good Internet connection from home?
- Are you comfortable using email and sending email attachments?
- Are you a strong computer user?

If you do not meet the above recommendations or are unsure about your willingness to devote at least THREE HOURS PER DAY then I suggest you wait until you can take the class in the traditional lecture format. This online format may save time commuting but requires at least as much time as attending class in reading and working text examples to help you understand the material.

COURSE DETAILS:

Activities
Twelve activities will be done this quarter. The information for these activities can be found in the “Course Documents” section of course compass. Some activities will require you to use your graphing calculator to input and plot data. You will be expected to print appropriate graphics from your calculator by downloading them using the TI Connect software. Most of the activities will also require graphing by hand and therefore you will need to scan and/or attach your resulting graphs. These activities are individual assignments and must be your own work. Your top ten activity grades will become the basis for the activity portion of your grade.

Exams
Four online exams using MyMathLab will need to be taken by the appropriate deadlines. For these exams you will be allowed to use your calculator, notes, and textbook. There will be a 90 minute time limit for each exam so plan accordingly. Exams should be taken AFTER the homework has been completed and AFTER completing a practice test. You can use the practice tests in the Chapter Contents section of MyMathLab. If you are unhappy with the score you receive on your first exam you may take the exam a second time and the average of the two attempts will be the exam grade. No make-up exams are allowed so be sure to complete the exams well BEFORE the due date on the class calendar to allow for unforeseen glitches and computer issues.

Daily Homework
Daily homework is EXTREMELY important in mathematics. The number of problems will vary between individuals. Some of you will find that you need to do many more problems than what is assigned on MyMathLab in order to give you enough practice to master the skills and concepts. You should be doing anywhere from 30-50 problems for each section. Your homework assignments will be done online using the MyMathLab online software. Homework problems can be repeated until done
Be sure to complete each unit of homework by the appropriate deadline. HOMEWORK MUST BE DONE REGULARLY TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THIS COURSE!

Skill Quizzes
You will be required to take 22 skill quizzes throughout the quarter. These quizzes are just another way to assess whether you are learning the skills you need to be successful. Most of them are designed to be taken without use of a calculator. See the Skill Quiz section of the CourseCompass site for more details.

Final Exam
The final exam for this class will be held at the Mt. Vernon campus of Skagit Valley College on either Monday, June 7 or Wednesday June 9. You must earn at least 50% on the final exam to receive a passing grade for the course. The final exam will be administered between 9:30AM and 11:30PM on Monday and between 11:30AM and 1:30PM on Wednesday. You will have 2 hours to finish the exam. You will NOT be allowed any notes for the final and it will include a NO calculator allowed portion. Therefore, it is extremely important for you to master the subject matter in this course to a high level of proficiency. You should be careful to learn the concepts and not rely on your calculator to compute values and do problems that are designed for you to complete without one.

If you cannot take the exam at the scheduled time then you will have to set up an appropriate proctor and have all the contact information for the proctor to me by May12th. If the information is not submitted to me by the deadline you will have to take the final on campus as scheduled.

Study Groups and Extra Help
During my office hours (10:30 Daily) I am available to help you with your mathematics. Appointments can be made to see me as well. If my office door is open feel free to drop in, if it’s closed I need some uninterrupted time to work. I will be holding a special Math 141 Study Session this quarter. The dates will probably be every Wednesday from 1:00-2:30PM in F209. Check the announcements for more information later in the quarter. Extra math help is also available in the Math Center in F212 and the tutoring center in L-20. Please make use of the help available and consider forming study groups. Your fellow classmates are a valuable resource. I will set up a discussion board for online posting of homework and project questions. I will only be available to respond to student questions via email during the M-F work week from 8:30-4:00PM so using the discussion board to get help from other students may be an alternate resource over the weekends and in the evenings.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Check your electronic mail and MyMathLab announcements page regularly! You are responsible for all the information I communicate to you via these two methods. If you change your email address it is your responsibility to update that information through the coursecompass program.
- Please include your full name on all communications to me. Please make sure all attachments are named using your full name also.
In order to create a positive learning atmosphere, students are expected to make themselves familiar with the Skagit Valley College Code of Student Conduct which is available online at http://www.skagit.edu/conduct. Students who fail to conduct themselves appropriately may be expelled from class.

Please be respectful of other student’s learning.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in the failure of the assignment or exam and the student will be reported to the Dean of Students. Cheating includes (among other things) copying another individual’s work or allowing someone to copy your work, using unauthorized references on a test or exam, or allowing another individual to take a test or assignment for you.

All students of Skagit Valley College are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Academic Honor Code of this institution found at http://www.skagit.edu/honorcode. Violations of this code include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct are reported to the student conduct officer. Students found to be in violation of the Academic Honor Code are subject to academic consequences up to and including failure of the course. Students may also be subject to college disciplinary sanctions up to and including expulsion from the College.

Hardship withdrawals and incompletes will only be given in case of death or medical emergency. If you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from completing the class or from fulfilling assignments you should make an appointment with the instructor to explain your situation and resolve the problem as soon as possible.

Last day to drop the class and receive a “W” without restriction is May 12.

No late work will be accepted!! You must complete the homework, exams, and projects by the deadlines posted. Please make PRIOR arrangement with the instructor if emergencies occur.

It is SVC policy that “discrimination and harassment of any form will not be tolerated”.

If you are a student with a disability and require academic adjustments or accommodation, please contact the Counseling office (360-416-7654) to arrange an appointment with the DSS office.

MYMATHLAB ONLINE SYSTEM:

For this class we will be using the online system called MyMathLab. MyMathLab is a series of text-specific online courses that accompany Addison-Wesley and Prentice Hall textbooks in Mathematics and Statistics. Over one million students have improved their mathematics skills with MyMathLab’s dependable and easy-to-use online homework, guided solutions, multimedia, tests, and e-books. MyMathLab offers the following features:

- Online homework assignments
- Online exams
- Complete online course content and customization tools
- Guided mathematical instruction
- Multimedia learning aids
- Student study plan
- Free tutoring from the Math Tutor Center

**COURSE CALENDAR:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit of Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit #1: Function basics, Linear Functions, Transformations. Calculator Use:</td>
<td>Homework: F.1-F.4, 1.1-1.6, 2.1, 2.2</td>
<td>Thursday, April 22 11:55PM (no exceptions!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graphing, Scatter plots, linear regression</td>
<td>Quizzes 1-5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Activities 1-3</td>
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<td>Exam 1</td>
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<td>Unit #2: Quadratic Functions, Applications, Systems, Matrices. Calculator</td>
<td>Homework: 2.3-2.8, 10.1-10.2, Appendix B.7</td>
<td>Thursday, May 6 11:55PM (no exceptions!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use: Using matrices to solve systems, graphing quadratic functions,</td>
<td>Quizzes 6-10</td>
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<td>calculating max/min, zoom box, tracing plots</td>
<td>Activity 4</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit #3: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions. Calculator Use: Graphing</td>
<td>Homework: 4.1-4.9</td>
<td>Thursday, May 27 11:55PM (no exceptions!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>exponential and log functions, Using e, ln, log buttons, Exp/log/logistic</td>
<td>Quizzes 11, 12, 16-21</td>
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<td>regressions.</td>
<td>Activities 5-10</td>
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<td>Exam 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit #4: Polynomials and Rational Functions. Calculator Use: Graphing</td>
<td>Homework 3.1-3.6</td>
<td>Friday, June 4 11:55PM (no exceptions!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>polynomials and rational functions, finding zeros and turning points, power</td>
<td>Quizzes 13-15, 22</td>
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<td>and cubic regression.</td>
<td>Activities 11, 12</td>
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<td>Exam 4</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Mt. Vernon Campus</td>
<td>June 7, 9:30AM  June 9, 11:30AM</td>
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<td>IN PERSON with identification. No notes!</td>
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**PLEASE USE THESE DUE DATES AS A LAST RESORT ONLY! STAY ON PACE USING THE SUGGESTED TIMELINE ON PAGE 8.**
STARTUP INFO FOR MYMATHLAB:


In order to use MyMathLab you will need a good Internet connection, preferably high-speed, and an up-to-date browser. To access the MyMathLab site for this course you will need to login at [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com). You will need your Student Access Code, this individual, course-specific 6-word code is needed for registration as a Course Compass student. You can purchase this code online during the registration process or your Student Access Code is packaged in a Course Compass Student Access Kit with your textbook. The kit includes a card with a pullback strip that reveals the code. This code can be redeemed only once---at the moment of registration.

A valid email address is necessary to register. This will be the email with which I communicate to you for the course so use one that you will check regularly.

The course ID number is **kocol69764** (NOTE: the ID number is my last name followed by 5 digits... the first digit is 6).


Note: If you have already used this text with MyMathLab you do not need a NEW access code. Follow these directions instead:
- click Login under the Student Section of coursecompass – BUT do NOT login
- click on “Edit your Profile” – below the login section
- Look carefully for the “Enroll in a New Course” button. Click on this button and follow the instructions. Enter the course ID to access this course.

After logging into the site use the installation wizard to configure your machine and download the necessary plugins required for MyMathLab

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Define a function including domain and range.
2. Graph quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions.
3. Recognize and apply transformations of functions.
4. Use distance and slope formulas.
5. Find composite and inverse functions.
6. Find the equation of a line; find the equation of a circle.
7. Use synthetic (polynomial) division.
8. Find real and complex zeros of a polynomial.
9. Solve equations involving logarithmic and exponential functions.
10. Use a graphing calculator to explore new graphs.
11. Understand how mathematics is used in other fields and occupations.
12. Understand the use of mathematics cross-culturally.
13. Apply alternative mathematical techniques, from a historical perspective where appropriate.
GENERAL EDUCATION LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students will be able to . . .

1.1 Determine the extent of information needed.
1.2 Access the needed information effectively, efficiently, ethically, and legally.
2.1 Identify and express concepts, terms, and facts related to a specific discipline.
2.3 Identify, interpret, and evaluate pertinent data and previous experience to reach conclusions.
8.1 Analyze problems to determine what mathematical principles apply.
8.2 Correctly apply logical reasoning and mathematical principles to solve problems.
8.3 Interpret information and reasoning expressed mathematically (for example in spreadsheets, diagrams, charts, formulas, etc.).
8.4 Communicate mathematical information effectively.
9.2 Demonstrate their understanding of the principles of scientific methods, analysis, and reasoning.
10.3 Use technology appropriate to the context and task to effectively retrieve and manage information, solve problems, and facilitate communication.
Math 141 DE -Spring 2010
Suggested Timeline

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27-Mar</td>
<td>F.1</td>
<td>F.2</td>
<td>F.3 &amp; 2.1</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>5-Apr</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.4</td>
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<td>12-Apr</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>19-Apr</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>10.2</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>26-Apr</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.8</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-May</td>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16/17/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-May</td>
<td>Logarithms</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>4.7</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>17-May</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Exam</td>
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<td>21</td>
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<td>13/14</td>
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<td>24-May</td>
<td>3.2</td>
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<td>31-May</td>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-Jun</td>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Final</td>
<td>9:30-11:30+</td>
<td>11:30-1:30+</td>
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