**Instructor**: Victor Hernandez

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**Office location and hours**: JDB 311; TBA

**Course Description**  
Math 2412: Precalculus. Topics include elementary theory of functions and equations, analytic geometry, vectors, introductory logic, mathematical induction, sequences and finite series.

**Prerequisites**

Math 1314: Pass with a “C” or better AND Math 1316: Pass with a “C” or better or Departmental approval

**Course Goal**

This course is intended primarily to prepare students for calculus. It can also be used for general mathematics credit.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):**

1. Represent and manipulate algebraic and trigonometric functions and relations algebraically, graphically, and numerically, including partial fraction decomposition and finding zeroes of functions.  
2. Engage in algebraic and trigonometric problem solving and modeling.  
3. Synthesize algebraic and trigonometric facts and laws into proofs.  
4. Analyze and manipulate equations between various two dimensional systems such as rectangular, polar, vector representations, conic systems and axes manipulations, as well as solving equations in these systems.  
5. Investigate and perform summations and predictions on geometric, algebraic and binomial sequences and series

**Learning outcomes**

Students will:

1.1 Develop and use various problem-solving techniques.

1.2 Recognize functions as ordered pairs.

1.3 Determine the graph of an algebraic equation or function.

1.4 Understand synthetic division.

1.5 Develop partial fraction decomposition.

1.6 Find the zeros of real functions

1.7 Solve polynomial equations.

1.8 Utilize the six basic trigonometric functions.

2.1 Apply the Law of sines and the Law of cosines for various types of situations.

3.1 Verify various trigonometric identities.

3.2 Find the powers and roots of complex numbers using DeMoivre’s Theorem.

4.1 Understand basic vectors (2 dimensional).

4.2 Convert points in a rectangular coordinate system to polar coordinates.

4.3 Recognize algebraic formulas relating to circles, parabolas, ellipses, and hyperbolas.

4.4 Use translation of axes, rotation of axes, and polar equations of conics.

5.1 Recognize the use of arithmetic and geometric sequences.

5.2 Use summation notation to represent a series.

5.3 Understand and use the Binomial theorem.

5.4 Understand mathematical induction.

5.5 (Optional) Understand the basic concepts of limits.

**CALENDAR**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Week | Date | Material to be covered |
| 1 | 1/14 | Section 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 |
|  | 1/16 | Section 1.5, 1.7 |
| 2 | 1/21 | MLK DAY |
|  | 1/23 | Section 1.9, 2.4, 2.5 |
| 3 | 1/28 | Section 2.6, 7.3 |
|  | 1/30 | EXAM 1 |
| 4 | 2/4 | Section 4.2, 4.5 |
|  | 2/6 | Section 4.6, 4.7 |
| 5 | 2/11 | Section 5.1, 5.2 |
|  | 2/13 | Section 5.3, 5.4 |
| 6 | 2/18 | PRESIDENT’S DAY |
|  | 2/20 | Section 5.5 |
| 7 | 2/25 | EXAM 2 |
|  | 2/27 | Section 6.1, 6.2 |
| 8 | 3/4 | Section 6.3, 6.4 |
|  | 3/6 | Section 6.5 |
|  | 3/11-3/13 | SPRING BREAK |
| 9 | 3/18 | Section 6.6, 6.7 |
|  | 3/20 | EXAM 3 |
| 10 | 3/25 | Section 9.1 |
|  | 3/27 | Section 9.2 |
| 11 | 4/1 | Section 9.3, 9.4 |
|  | 4/3 | Section 9.5 |
| 12 | 4/8 | Section 9.6 |
|  | 4/10 | EXAM 4 |
| 13 | 4/15 | Section 10.1 |
|  | 4/17 | Section 10.2 |
| 14 | 4/22 | Section 10.3 |
|  | 4/24 | Section 10.4 |
| 15 | 4/29 | Section 10.5 |
|  | 5/1 | EXAM 5 |
| 16 | 5/6 | FINAL EXAM 1pm -3pm |

**Instructional Methods**

As an instructor, it is my duty to give students access to the subject at hand. Instead of providing facts to be memorized, I find it important to help students learn to think and reason mathematically, and to connect these things so that they are more flexible and capable students.

**Student Assignments**

Suggested homework sets have been designated for each section. Up to 10 points will be added to an exam if the suggested homework is turned in on the day of the exam. 5 in class exams, and a Cumulative Final Exam will be used to calculate your class grade. The lowest class grade (which in includes a zero from a missed exam) will be dropped. No make-ups will be given for any assignment.

**Assessments**

Avg of highest 4 Exams 70 % of your final grade

Final Exam 30 % of your final grade

**HCC Policy Statement - ADA**

Services to Students with Disabilities

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at his or her respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty members are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office. Persons needing accommodations due to a documented disability should contact the ADA counselor for their college as soon as possible. For questions, please contact Donna Price at 713.718.5165. To visit the ADA Web site, please visit www.hccs.edu then click Future students, scroll down the page and click on the words Disability Information. Also, interested students may wish to consult the **Disability Support Services Student Handbook** which may be found on-line.

**HCC Policy Statement: Academic Honesty**

**Any student found cheating in any way during this course will be immediately dropped from the course with the grade of F and a note of academic dishonesty will be noted on your transcript.**

A student who is academically dishonest is, by definition, not showing that the coursework has been learned, and that student is claiming an advantage not available to other students. The instructor is responsible for measuring each student's individual achievements and also for ensuring that all students compete on a level playing field. Thus, in our system, the instructor has teaching, grading, and enforcement roles. You are expected to be familiar with the University's Policy on Academic Honesty, found in the catalog. What that means is: If you are charged with an offense, pleading ignorance of the rules will not help you. Students are responsible for conducting themselves with honor and integrity in fulfilling course requirements. Penalties and/or disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by College System officials against a student accused of scholastic dishonesty. “Scholastic dishonesty”: includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion.

Cheating on a test includes:

* Copying from another students’ test paper;
* Using materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
* Collaborating with another student during a test without authorization;
* Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of a test not yet administered;
* Bribing another person to obtain a test that is to be administered.

Plagiarism means the appropriation of another’s work and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work in one’s own written work offered for credit.

Collusion mean the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit. Possible punishments for academic dishonesty may include a grade of 0 or F in the particular assignment, failure in the course, and/or recommendation for probation or dismissal from the College System. (See the Student Handbook)

**HCC Policy Statements**

*Class Attendance - It is important that you come to class!*Attending class regularly is the best way to succeed in this class. Research has shown that the single most important factor in student success is attendance. Simply put, going to class greatly increases your ability to succeed. You are expected to be on time at the beginning of each class period. For complete information regarding Houston Community College’s policies on attendance, please refer to the Student Handbook. You are responsible for materials covered during your absences. Class attendance is checked daily. Although it is your responsibility to drop a course for nonattendance, the instructor has the authority to drop you for excessive absences.

If you are not attending class, you are not learning the information. As the information that is discussed in class is important for your career, **students may be dropped from a course after accumulating absences in excess of six (6) hours of instruction**. The six hours of class time would include any total classes missed or for excessive tardiness or leaving class early.

You may decide NOT to come to class for whatever reason. As an adult making the decision not to attend, you do not have to notify the instructor prior to missing a class. However, if this happens too many times, you may suddenly find that you have “lost” the class.

Poor attendance records tend to correlate with poor grades. If you miss any class, including the first week, you are responsible for all material missed. It is a good idea to find a friend or a buddy in class who would be willing to share class notes or discussion or be able to hand in your work if you unavoidably miss a class

**HCC Course Withdrawal Policy**If you feel that you cannot complete this course, you will need to withdraw from the course prior to the final date of withdrawal. Before, you withdraw from your course; please take the time to meet with the instructor to discuss why you feel it is necessary to do so. The instructor may be able to provide you with suggestions that would enable you to complete the course. Your success is very important. Beginning in fall 2007, the Texas Legislature passed a law limiting first time entering freshmen to no more than **SIX** total course withdrawals **throughout** their educational career in obtaining a certificate and/or degree.

To help students avoid having to drop/withdraw from any class, HCC has instituted an Early Alert process by which your professor *may* “alert” you and HCC counselors that you might fail a class because of excessive absences and/or poor academic performance. It is your responsibility to visit with your professor or a counselor to learn about what, if any, HCC interventions might be available to assist you – online tutoring, child care, financial aid, job placement, etc. – to stay in class and improve your academic performance.

If you plan on withdrawing from your class, you **MUST** contact a HCC counselor or your professor prior to withdrawing (dropping) the class for approval and this must be done **PRIOR** to the withdrawal deadline to receive a “W” on your transcript. \*\*Final withdrawal deadlines vary each semester and/or depending on class length, please visit the online registration calendars, HCC schedule of classes and catalog, any HCC Registration Office, or any HCC counselor to determine class withdrawal deadlines. ***Remember to allow a 24-hour response time when communicating via email and/or telephone with a professor and/or counselor. Do not submit a request to discuss withdrawal options less than a day before the deadline.***  If you do not withdraw before the deadline, you will receive the grade that you are making in the class as your final grade. **The last day to withdraw is April 1, 2013**

**Repeat Course Fee**The State of Texas encourages students to complete college without having to repeat failed classes. To increase student success, students who repeat the same course more than twice, are required to pay extra tuition. The purpose of this extra tuition fee is to encourage students to pass their courses and to graduate. Effective fall 2006, HCC will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. If you are considering course withdrawal because you are not earning passing grades, confer with your instructor/counselor as early as possible about your study habits, reading and writing homework, test taking skills, attendance, course participation, and opportunities for tutoring or other assistance that might be available.

**Classroom Behavior**As your instructor and as a student in this class, it is our shared responsibility to develop and maintain a positive learning environment for everyone. Your instructor takes this responsibility very seriously and will inform members of the class if their behavior makes it difficult for him/her to carry out this task. As a fellow learner, you are asked to respect the learning needs of your classmates and assist your instructor achieve this critical goal.

**Use of Camera and/or Recording Devices**As a student active in the learning community of this course, it is your responsibility to be respectful of the learning atmosphere in your classroom. To show respect of your fellow students and instructor, you will turn off your phone and other electronic devices, and will not use these devices in the classroom unless you receive permission from the instructor.

Use of recording devices, including camera phones and tape recorders, is prohibited in classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, and other locations where instruction, tutoring, or testing occurs. Students with disabilities who need to use a recording device as a reasonable accommodation should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities for information regarding reasonable accommodations

**Instructor Requirements**

As a student in this class, it is your responsibility to read the textbook, submit assignments on the due dates, study for the exams, attend and participate in class, and to think about the material beyond just memorization**.**  As thinking mathematically requires a great deal of exposure and practice, homework sets are strongly encouraged for students to get the most out of this class.

**Grading Scale**

90 - 100 = A  
80 - 89 = B  
70 - 79 = C  
60 - 69 = D  
Below 60 = F

**Personal Communication Device Policy:**

All personal communication devices (any device with communication capabilities including but not limited to cell phones, blackberries, pagers, cameras, palmtop computers, lap tops, PDA's, radios, headsets, portable fax machines, recorders, organizers, databanks, and electronic dictionaries or translators) must be muted or turned off during class. Such activity during class time is deemed to be disruptive to the academic process. Personal communication devices are to not be on the student desk during examinations. Usage of such devices during exams is expressly prohibited during examinations and will be considered cheating (see academic honesty section above).

**Student Course Reinstatement Policy:**

Students have a responsibility to arrange payment for their classes when they register, either through cash, credit card, financial aid, or the installment plan. Faculty members have a responsibility to check their class rolls regularly, especially during the early weeks of a term, and reconcile the official class roll to ensure that no one is attending class whose name does not appear on it. Students who are dropped from their courses for nonpayment of tuition and fees who request reinstatement after the official date of record (OE Date) can be reinstated by making payment in full and paying an additional \$75 per course reinstatement fee. A student requesting reinstatement should present the registrar with a completed **Enrollment Authorization Form** with the signature of the instructor, department chair, or dean who should verify that the student has been attending class regularly. Students who are reinstated are responsible for all course policies and procedures, including attendance requirements.

**Resources:**

Free tutoring is available in the Math Lab (JDB 300) Additional help is also available through the Learning Resource Center and through Student Support Services. Students can get free assistance, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in Math, English and other subjects, at www.hccs.askonline.net. Typically, posted questions are answered by an HCC tutor or faculty within 24 hours (usually under 6 hours). There are also several online math resources that you can find with an internet search. You may also find information on the Learning Web site accessible through your specific HCCS campus website.

KEY POINTS

* All tentative dates are given on the calendar in this syllabus
* You have 5 in class exams and a final exam, all of which are required.
* There are no make-up exams; any exam that is missed will be assigned a grade of zero.
* The lowest exam grade is dropped
* The ONLY extra credit assignment that will be given is the homework sets from the book.
* You can be dropped from the class after missing too many days.
* Anyone caught cheating in any way will be dropped from the course with an F as a grade.
* The last day to withdraw is April 1, 2013