

# MATH 115 Precalculus

Fall 2009

UNBC

## Course Description

Simplifying algebraic expressions, exponents and radicals;  
solving equations, inequalities, and word problems;  
manipulating functions, inverses, graphs, analytic geometry;  
discovering trigonometric and logarithmic functions.

The Professor,  
Dr. Jennifer Hyndman,  
can be found in 10-2084  
(250) 960-6628  
hyndman@unbc.ca

Really fine print: You need a C- in this course to get into the next course.

<http://blackboard.unbc.ca/>

Mathematical  
Academic  
Centre for  
Excellence  
TAL 2088

Midterm 1: Friday October 16  
Midterm 2: Friday November 6  
Midterm 3: Friday November 27

## Success Equals:

practice

class attendance

office hours

tutorial time

working together

getting help

staying caught up

practice

completing homework

help from the Learning Skills Centre

No Calculators

Learning Skills Centre  
TAL 2584

**Final: 40%**  
**Assignments: 15%**  
**Midterm 1: 15%**  
**Midterm 2: 15%**  
**Midterm 3: 15%**

## Supplemental Instruction Times

(T1) Wednesday 9:30 -- 10:20 in 5-156

(T2) Tuesday 4:00 -- 4:50 in 5-158

(T3) Wednesday 11:30 -- 12:20 in 5-156

Attend as many as you would like.

The Book

Precalculus  
Mathematics for Calculus  
5th Edition  
Enhanced Review  
Stewart, Redlin, Watson

Solution manual and study guide  
are useful but optional.

## Objectives

The major goal of this course is the development of mathematical reasoning skills. Your aim is to develop proficiency with the accurate manipulation of algebraic expressions and equations, adeptness with manipulating and graphing functions, and fluency with mathematical language, in particular translating to and from word problems.

## Supplemental Instruction

Your supplemental instruction leader will not be solving assignment problems for you. Problems similar to the assignment may be done but not the assignment itself. (If you come to Dr. Hyndman's office hours you might get help with the assignment problems.) You will work at the board and in groups during the supplemental instruction sessions. You may play games and do other activities.

Every week you should attend the supplemental instruction section that you are registered in. You are encouraged to attend other sections as well. Repetition makes mathematics easier to learn.

## MACE and LSC

The Mathematical Academic Centre for Excellence (MACE) and the Learning Skills Centre (LSC) are resources that all students should use. Everything from free private tutoring at LSC through to a place to meet study partners (MACE) is available.

## Class Attendance

Come to class. It is the easiest way to learn the material.

## Calculators

One of the objectives for this course is to develop a high level of comfort working with numbers. Number sense, the awareness of approximately what an answer should be, is best developed without the use of a calculator. Before number sense is developed students tend to believe the number a calculator produces even if a mistake has been made. After a strong number sense is developed, mistakes made on a calculator are more obvious. To aid in the development of number sense calculators are not used in this course.

## Group Work

You are strongly encouraged to work with others. Form a study group to do practice problems together. Be sure to write out your assignments individually even if you do work with others.

## Ethics

It is every student's responsibility to work and study in an ethical manner. Please read *Section 44 Academic Offences* of the University Calendar. This section may be found at <http://www.unbc.ca/calendar/undergraduate/general/regulations.html> in the online calendar. This section explains the possible penalties for academic misconduct.

## On Time Policy

The marker for this class is a student. The marker and I make every effort to mark your assignments in a fair and detailed manner. As the marker must fit this work into their own course schedule, I will not give my marker late assignments to mark. If you do not manage to get your assignment in on time, you may bring it to my office during office hours and I will go over the questions with you. Except in exceptional cases no marks will be allocated for late work.

## Exam Policy

If you have an unavoidable conflict with a scheduled midterm or exam tell me at least two weeks in advance. (Flying home early is not an acceptable reason to miss an exam but competing in the Olympics is.) If you miss a midterm without two weeks notice and you have a very good excuse, the grade weighting will be adjusted. Documentation must be provided. The final exam must be written.