

MA 112.108    PRECALCULUS ALGEBRA    Spring 2007

**Lectures:**                    MW 2:30-3:20 p.m. in HUMB 150  
**Labs:**                        MA 112L.108    F 2:00-3:15 p.m. in ILB 245  
                                  MA 112L.113    F 12:20-1:35 p.m. in ILB 245

**Instructor:**                Dr. Victoria Sadovskaya  
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**Office phone:**             460-6264 ext. 2622  
**Office hours:**             MW 11 a.m. - noon and 1-2 p.m., or by appointment  
**Course Compass:**        [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com)

**Text:** *Precalculus, Graphs & Models*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, by Bittinger, Beecher, Ellenbogen, Penna.

**Coverage:** Chapters 1-4 and Sections 8.1 and 8.2 of the text. The topics include linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions, their applications, related equations and inequalities, and systems of linear equations.

*I encourage you to read the relevant section of the book after each class.*

**Learning Objectives:** This course is part of a sequence designed to prepare students for the study of Calculus. The students will strengthen their algebraic, graphing, and reasoning skills through studying a variety of functions and related equations and inequalities. Also, the course teaches applicable skills, and it contains culturally relevant informations that an educated person should possess.

**Attendance policy:** You are expected to attend all lectures and lab sessions. Roll will be taken daily. If you miss a class, you are responsible to learn the material covered and to know the announcements made in class. Habitually absent students lose privileges: e.g. office hours and grading appeals.

*Class attendance will be considered in determining borderline grades.*

**MyMathLab:** Each student needs to be registered for MyMathLab. If you are already registered, make sure that you remember your login name and password. If you are not registered, you will need the *MyMathLab Starter Kit*. The Starter Kit is sold with a new text book or separately, it can be purchased on-line at [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com). The Starter Kit contains a student access code as well as information on registering and using MyMathLab. The *Course ID* for this course is *sadovskaya60201*.

**You must register for MyMathLab before or during the January 12 Lab session.**

**Computer Lab:** There are Computer Labs in ILB 245 and ILB 405. All computers are equipped with MyMathLab. Check the bulletin board outside ILB 325 for lab times. In addition, MyMathLab can be accessed from most computers with internet access.

**Online Homework:** Online Homework Assignments will be given via MyMathLab on a weekly basis. Each assignment will cover the material discussed in class on Monday and Wednesday, and it will be due on Friday of the same week. **Late homework will not be accepted**, so start working on each assignment promptly. After you have registered for the course, you may reach homework assignments by clicking on the course name and then on the *Do Homework* link. You can work on and turn in each homework assignment repeatedly until the due date. **It is necessary to complete each Online Homework Assignment at 80% level to pass the course.**

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given on a weekly basis during the lab sessions. Each quiz will cover the material discussed in class on Monday and Wednesday of that week. Quiz problems will be similar to homework problems. There will be no make-up quizzes, but the lowest two scores will be dropped.

**Exams:** There will be two in-class exams and a two-hour cumulative final exam.

Exam 1:	Wednesday, February 14.
Exam 2:	Wednesday, March 28.
Final Exam:	Monday, April 30, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

All students must plan to take exams at the scheduled times. If you are unable to attend an exam you should contact me promptly, before the exam if possible. A compelling reason for absence, such as illness or a family emergency, will entitle you to a make-up exam. Otherwise, the score for the missed test will be zero.

**Calculator:** A scientific calculator capable of computing the values of exponential and logarithmic functions is required for this course. Bring a calculator to each Lab session.

**Note:** Calculators cannot be used during the exams. It will be announced before each quiz whether calculators are allowed. Books and notes cannot be used on any tests.

**Grading Policy:** *It is necessary to complete each Online Homework Assignment at 80% level to earn a grade of C or higher in the course.*

Your total score will be calculated as follows:

Homework:	20%
Quizzes:	25%
Exam 1:	15%
Exam 2:	15%
Final Exam:	25%

Your letter grade will be determined as follows:

**A:** Your total score is at least 90% and *each* of the Online Homework Assignment scores is at least 80%.

**B:** Your total score is at least 80% and *each* of the Online Homework Assignment scores is at least 80%.

**C:** Your total score is at least 70% and *each* of the Online Homework Assignment scores is at least 80%.

**D and F:** If at least one of your Online Homework Assignment scores is less than 80%, or your total score is less than 70%, then your course grade is at most a D. If your total score is less than 60%, then your course grade is an F.

**Help with the course:** If you experience difficulties with this course, please contact me as soon as possible. You are also encouraged to see the Teaching Assistant in the Lab during his office hours. Free tutoring is available from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics in ILB 456.

**Dropping:** The last day to withdraw from a course is Friday, April 6. Please speak with me before making a final decision to drop the class.

**Academic accommodations:** If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify me and provide certification from the Office of Special Student Services. It is located in the Student Center, Room 270, Phone 460-7212.

**Note:** *The requirements and the policies may be modified as circumstances dictate. Such changes will be announced in class and posted on [www.coursecompass.com](http://www.coursecompass.com).*