

MS 101 – Algebra & Trigonometry

Spring 2012

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Office hours: Tue 11:00-12:00 and 1:00-2:00
Textbook: *Algebra and Trigonometry*, 8th edition by Larson and Hostetler
Webpage: <http://www.comfsm.fm/~gearhart/MS101.html>

Course Description and Objectives: Course will cover exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs, the properties of logarithms, solving logarithmic equations, modeling exponential phenomena, angles, trigonometric functions of angles, inverse trig functions, trigonometric identities, solving trigonometric equations. The course will emphasize a numerical, graphical, and analytical approach to understanding these concepts. The students will be expected to solve problems both by hand and using technology (i.e., calculator or computer).

Using the Text Book: You should read the textbook. Your primary reference for the material covered should be the textbook, not the notes you may take in class. By this I mean that you should not expect to take notes in class and be able to master the material simply by looking at your notes.

Some things you will need: 1) A scientific calculator. I recommend the Sharp EL-531W model sold at the bookstore. 2) A three-ring binder to organize your class handouts. 3) A pencil with a good eraser. Please do not turn in work done with a pen.

Course Web Page: Information about this course will be posted at the website listed above. At a minimum, I will post homework assignments and other class announcements.

Grading Homework: When homework is assigned, you are expected to make a reasonable attempt to complete all the problems. I will pick a few problems from an exercise set for grading. I will not usually grade all of the problems assigned.

Late Work: Late work will not usually be accepted. If you won't be in class the day an assignment is due you should hand it in beforehand or have a classmate bring it for you. If you have to miss class on the day a test or quiz is given, you must notify me **beforehand** to make arrangements for a makeup.

Tests: There will be several 55-minute tests. These tests will collectively account for 70% of your course grade. Additionally, there will be a comprehensive final exam which will account for 20% of your grade.

Classroom Policies:

- 1) If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what happened during that class. Specifically, if an assignment is given during a class that you missed, that is not an excuse for failing to submit the assignment. You can come to my office to obtain any handouts from the missed class.
- 2) Please come to class on time.
- 3) Please don't let your cell phone ring during class.
- 4) Once class has started please don't leave the classroom without permission.

Attendance Policy.

The instructor reserves the right to drop you from the course after **six** absences. Arriving at class late counts as 1/3 absence (i.e. three times late equals one absence).

Grading Scale: The grading for the class will consist of several components:

- Homework, quizzes, group work 10% of grade
- Tests (Probably 3) 70% of grade
- Final Exam 20% of grade

A final numerical score will be computed and a letter grade assigned based on the following scale:
60% to 69% = “D” 70% to 79% = “C” 80% to 89% = “B” 90% to 100% = “A”

Here is how to compute your **final numerical score**:

1. Add up all points earned on homework, quizzes, group work and divide this amount by the total points on homework, quizzes, group work. This is your “homework average”.
2. Add up all points earned on tests and divide this amount by the total points on tests. This is your “test average”.
3. Divide points earned on final exam by total points on final exam. This is your “final average”.

final numerical score = 10*(homework average) + 70*(test average) + 20*(final average)

Academic Honesty Policy: Cheating is wrong. The college handbook tells you what will happen if you get caught. Please check it out if you’re thinking of cheating.

Highly **Tentative** Schedule:

| Week | Sections | Assessment |
|------|----------|------------|
| 1 | 5.1 | |
| 2 | 5.2 | |
| 3 | 5.3 | |
| 4 | 5.4 | |
| 5 | 5.5 | Test |
| 6 | 6.1 | |
| 7 | 6.2 | |
| 8 | 6.3 | |
| 9 | 6.4 | |
| 10 | 6.6 | |
| 11 | 6.7 | Test |
| 12 | 7.1 | |
| 13 | 7.2-7.3 | |
| 14 | 8.1 | |
| 15 | 8.2 | Test |
| 16 | Review | |