

Course Syllabus
Math 170.04
Pre Calculus Algebra
3 Credits
Spring, 2008

1. **Class meeting information:** Class meets in LDB 402
TuTh 12:30-01:50 am
2. **Professor:** Dr. Yuliya Babenko
Office: 426 Lee Drain
Office Phone: 294-4884
e-mail: babenko@shsu.edu
web-page: http://www.shsu.edu/~mth_www/fac_pages/babenko.html
3. **Office Hours:**
W 11 am - 1 pm, 3-4 pm
Tu/Tr 11 am -12 noon
and, of course, by appointment.
4. **Course Description:**
Topics include a brief review of introductory algebra, elementary theory of equations, polynomials, functions (including exponential and logarithmic) and their graphs, inequalities, and other related topics.
Class will be primarily lecture-oriented.
5. **Course Objectives:**
This course is specifically designed for those students who need preparation beyond two years of high school geometry before taking the Calculus sequence. In this course the student is expected:
 - to obtain an understanding of the principles involved in the algebra of real numbers
 - to obtain an understanding of the concept of a function and how to use algebraic and geometric properties to study properties of function, and
 - to learn fundamental properties of major classes of elementary functionsMain Goals: gaining factual knowledge (developing terminology, learning new methods as well as fundamental principles and theories) and learning to apply the course material to improve problem solving and decision making.
6. **Required Textbook:**
College Algebra by Mark Dugopolski, 4th edition.
7. **Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend every class. If class must be missed, the student is expected to get the notes from a classmate. I will keep a record of attendance.
Tardiness: Students are expected to arrive to class on time. If a student is perpetually late, they will be asked to not attend class unless they arrive on time. If tardiness becomes a

problem for the class as a whole, people who arrive late will not be permitted to enter the class. If this stricter policy becomes necessary, there will be an announcement made in class.

8. **Assignments:**

- (a) **Homework:** Homework will be assigned in class each day. Homework will not be collected, but students are encouraged to check their work with the solutions manual. It is your responsibility to ask questions about homework problems which you were not able to complete or did not understand. It is your responsibility to come to office hours, or otherwise contact someone for help. It is also your responsibility to do as many problems from each section as you need to in order to feel comfortable with the material.
- (b) **Quizzes:** There will be both announced in advance and pop-up quizzes so you should be prepared every time. At the end of semester I might drop one lowest quiz grade. I will schedule the graded assignments (quizzes and tests) so that you will stay up-to-date with the material. Therefore, you should expect a quiz or a test at least once a week.
- (c) **Other quizzes:** I reserve the right to have in-class worksheets or exam rewrites unannounced which will count as quiz scores.
- (d) **Class participation:** Students are encouraged to attend every class and participate actively by asking questions both in and out of class.

9. **Exams:** There will be three tests during the semester. Any changes will be announced in class.

If a student misses an exam, the student will be allowed (only under my permission!) to replace that exam score with their score on the final exam if the student notifies the instructor before the test, and takes and passes the rest of exams at the regularly scheduled time. If a student does not notifies me in advance, he/she will need to bring an official excuse note.

No make-ups are given!

The **final exam** will be held on Tuesday, May 13th, from 11 am -1 pm. It will be comprehensive.

10. **Study group:** I suggest that interested students form a study group that will meet at least before tests and quizzes. The group can always ask me for additional problems, reference sources, additional meeting time.

11. **Grading Plan:** Grades will be posted on the Blackboard.

The course grade is based on:

Quizzes	100 points
Exams	100 points each
Final Exam	150 points

and course grades will be assigned via the following table:

Percentage earned	Grade
90-100%	A
80 - 89%	B
70 - 79%	C
60 - 69%	D
0 - 59	F

There is no additional curve in this class, so keep up as the semester progresses.

12. **Student Syllabus Guidelines:** You may find online a more detailed description of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure: <http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>
13. **Academic Dishonesty:** Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.
14. **Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination.
15. **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.
16. **Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.
17. **Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrars Office.
18. **Cellular telephones** and pagers must be turned off before class begins. In the case of expecting an emergency call you should notify the professor in advance and have the phone “on vibrate”. Since they are to be turned off, they should not be visible in class. If cell phones become an issue in class, students will be asked to leave if their phone should ring during class.
19. **Additional Information** All information on this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class.