# **Syllabus for MATH 2412 Precalculus**

<u>Instructor Information</u>: INSTRUCTOR: David Katz EMAIL: <u>dkatz@dcccd.edu</u> WEB: <u>http://iws.ccccd.edu/dkatz/index.htm</u> Division Information: PHONE: 972-273-3500 LOCATION: P330

**TEXT:** *Precalculus: Mathmatics for Calculus* (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) by Stewart, Redlin, and Watson

**PREREQUISITE:** MATH 1316 Trigonometry or equivalent course work

**COURSE SUPPLIES:** Any TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator. The least expensive version is OK. Access to the Internet is also required to participate in the on-line discussions. Students should also purchase eight Scantron sheets (form 882-ES aka 882-E) for testing.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:** To develop a further understanding of the process of learning mathematics and build the algebraic skills necessary for future math courses. This course consists of the study of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions and their graphs. Conic sections, polar coordinates, and other topics of analytic geometry will be included. One of the objectives of this course is the Core Curriculum Intellectual Competency for Critical Thinking: the student will think and analyze at a critical level.

**COURSE GRADE:** Your course grade will be determined by the following:

70%	(10% each)
15%	
05%	
05%	
05%	
	70% 15% 05% 05% 05%

Future semesters will include a homework project.

Course Average:

A = 90 - 100	D = 60 - 69	
B = 80 - 89	FE = 0 - 59	(failure due to low performance)
C = 70 - 79		

## **DROP PROCEDURE:**

You are expected to attend class regularly and to consult with the instructor when absences are necessary. If you are unable to complete this course, you must withdraw from it by the official drop date. For the first week of class, all students are required to obtain the signature of their instructor before being allowed to drop a course. If you stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "FN" (failure due to non-attendance). Students withdrawing from all classes should go to the Advising Center (A465-C) and complete an exit interview and a withdrawal form. **Refer to the course calendar for the last day to withdraw.** If you are considering dropping this course please discuss it with a counselor or me. Often there are other alternatives. We want to help you explore all the alternatives before you drop the course.

**TESTS:** Tests will be taken in class. Please bring a Scantron sheet (<u>form 882</u>) to each test to record your answers. Refer to the course calendar for test dates. Speak to me to make arrangements for make-up exams. Make-up exams are usually given in the Testing Center (A425). You will need a North Lake College ID to take the exams in the Testing Center. The final exam must be taken in the classroom. The final exam is comprehensive and covers all the material covered in the course. I do not offer re-tests; however, I will replace your lowest chapter test grade with your final exam grade.

You may use your handwritten homework and notes on the test (except for make-up tests at the Testing Center). The homework/notes you use on the test must be written by you (i.e., not purchased, photocopied or reproduced by similar electronic means). *Thus, take careful notes in class and do all homework!* 

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance will be taken each class period. Absences are detrimental to one's performance in a course. You are to attend regularly in order that you may increase your chances for a successful semester in algebra. Tardiness is strongly discouraged, as it is disruptive to the class. However, you are better off to come late than not at all. If you anticipate a particular problem, please discuss it with me before or after class.

Remember: Attendance is 5% of your final grade.

**HOMEWORK:** Homework is the most important learning tool in a course. The instructor's role of facilitating learning is greatly enhanced for the student who has attempted the homework. The classroom environment is more favorable for learning when the student has studied the material in the text, has tried to work the problems, and uses the classroom to get supplementary information and assistance that is not available in the text. **TUTORS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE MATH LAB (C211) IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE**.

You will be expected to do, for each class period, the assigned exercises in <u>the section of the</u> <u>text, which was discussed in the previous class period</u>. Please do your assigned homework neatly in a notebook. Keep all of the homework for a chapter in your notebook and bring all of your homework for that chapter to class with you.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION:** completing your homework is on time is necessary so you can present homework problems to your classmates at the board. These classroom presentations are 5% of your grade. Also, homework is necessary so that you can participate in the on-line discussions via eCampus (another 5% of your grade).

## **DISABILITY SERVICES FOR STUDENTS:**

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), NLC is committed to ensuring that all qualified students with disabilities are afforded an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from its programs and services. Any student who believes he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Disability Services Office at 972-273-3165 located in A413.

**NOTICE TO STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID:** If you are receiving financial aid grants or loans, you must begin attendance in all classes. Do not drop or stop attending any class without consulting the Financial Aid Office. Changes in your enrollment level and failing grades may require that you repay financial aid funds.

### **RE-TAKING THIS COURSE:**

Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge a higher tuition rate to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in higher tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the fall 2002 semester.

For more information go to the DCCCD web site at: <u>http://www.dcccd.edu/Current+Students/Paying+for+College/Third+Course+Attempt/</u>

**CLASSROOM POLICIES AND SPECIAL POLICIES:** Students are not allowed to eat in the classroom.

**RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:** Students who will be absent from class for the observance of a religious holiday must notify the instructor in advance. Please refer to the college catalog Student Obligations section. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Disability Services Office.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty, including (but not limited to) cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and collusion, may receive an F on the assignment and/or an F in their course(s) from the instructor and may be suspended from college by administrative action.

**CHANGES IN SYLLABUS:** This syllabus is intended as a tentative set of guidelines for this course and your instructor reserves the right to make modifications in content, schedule and requirements as deemed necessary to promote the best education possible within the prevailing conditions affecting this particular course.

#### **TESTING CENTER HOURS (A425)**

Mon Thurs.	8:30 A.M 9:00 P.M.
Fri. & Sat.	8:30 A.M 3:30 P.M.
Closed Sunday	

#### MATH LAB HOURS (C211)

Mon Thurs.	8:00 a.m 9:30 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m 1:00 p.m.
Closed Sunday	

## **Core Area Exemplary Educational Objectives**

#### Core Area: Mathematics

*The objective* of the mathematics component of the core curriculum is to develop a quantitatively literate college graduate. Every college graduate should be able to apply basic mathematical tools in the solution of real-world problems.

- 1. To apply arithmetic, algebraic, geometric, higher-order thinking, and statistical methods to modeling and solving real-world situations.
- 2. To represent and evaluate basic mathematical information verbally, numerically, graphically, and symbolically.
- 3. To expand mathematical reasoning skills and formal logic to develop convincing mathematical arguments.
- 4. To use appropriate technology to enhance mathematical thinking and understanding and to solve mathematical problems and judge the reasonableness of the results.
- 5. To interpret mathematical models such as formulas, graphs, tables and schematics, and draw inferences from them.
- 6. To recognize the limitations of mathematical and statistical models.
- 7. To develop the view that mathematics is an evolving discipline, interrelated with human culture, and understanding its connections to other disciplines.