Math 114, Algebra and Trigonometry
Lecture 1, Spring Semester 2003-04

Basic Information

Instructor: Professor Alexander Nagel
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Office Hours: Mondays, 11:00 - 11:50 AM
           Tuesdays, 3:00 - 3:50 PM
           Fridays, 11:00 - 11:50 AM
           By appointment

Text: Precalculus: Functions and Graphs by E. Swokowski and J. Cole
      Ninth Edition, Brooks/Cole

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9:55 - 10:45 AM in B239 Van Vleck

Exams: Exam #1 Wednesday, February 18, in class
       Exam #2 Friday, March 12, in class
       Exam #3 Wednesday, April 21, in class
       Final Exam Sunday, May 9, 2:45 - 4:45 PM

The three in-class exams will be held during the regular lecture period (9:55 - 10:45 AM)
in the regular lecture room (B239 Van Vleck). Thus we will schedule make-up exams only
under very unusual circumstances. Please inform me and your TA within the first two weeks
of class if you have a conflict with one of the in-class exams.

The date and time of the final examination are set by the University. We will not reschedule
or give make-ups for the final exam to accommodate early departure from Madison. See
me early in the semester if you have a legitimate conflict.

Assignments:

Homework problems will be assigned weekly in lecture, and will be available on this web
page. The completed assignments will be collected in discussion sections on a date specified
by the TA. We expect all assignments to be written neatly, and handed in on time.

Grading:

Each in-class exam is worth 100 points, and the final exam is worth 150 points. Work in
discussion section is worth 50 points. Your final grade will be based on your total out the
maximum possible total of 500 points.
Discussion Sections:
You are expected to attend your discussion section twice weekly, where you will hand in assignments, go over homework problems, have questions answered, and take quizzes. Ten percent of your final grade is based on your work in discussion sections.

Calculators:
Calculators and computers are useful and powerful tools that can be a great help with numerical computations, algebraic manipulation, curve sketching, and visualization. However, it is crucial that you learn how to do simple versions of these activities on your own, without the use of calculators. Thus you will not be allowed to use calculators on the exams in this course. All problems on the exams will be designed so that they can be done without calculators. You should use calculators to check your homework answers, but you must learn to have confidence in your own calculations.

General Comments:
Although you may have seen algebra and trigonometry before, do not make the mistake of thinking you can coast through this course. We will cover a lot of material very quickly, and you need to keep up and work systematically in order to do well in the course. It is important to do lots of homework problems, and to ask questions of me or of your teaching assistant if you do not understand some topic. Since this is a five credit course, you should expect to spend at least 8 to 10 hours per week working on Math 114 in addition to attending lectures and discussion section.