MTH 121 – Precalculus I
Fall 2010

Instructor: Carol Overdeep
Office: OM 429
Email: coverdeep@stmartin.edu
Phone: (360) 438-4378
Office Hours: MW 12–1 (HH 213); TTh 1–3 (OM 429); by appointment; drop in
Webpage: http://homepages.stmartin.edu/fac_staff/coverdeep/

Other: Coursepack of class notes available in the bookstore

**Course Objectives:**

- Lay the foundation for further study in mathematics at the college level.
- Apply the theory of real-valued functions to a wide variety of real-world applications.
- Develop analytical and mathematical reasoning skills.

**Exams and Grading:**

- **Homework** 20% **IMPORTANT: NO EXTRA CREDIT**
- Exams 1/2/3/4 60% (15% each)
- Final 20% MWF 10: 12/14/10, 10:15–12:15
  
  MWF 11: 12/13/10, 10:15–12:15

**Homework:**

- Homework may be done in groups (each student must hand in an assignment).
- Homework may be an in-class assignment. These can not be made up.
- Assigned problems are on a separate handout as well as on my webpage.
- Due dates will be announced in class.
- You must show your work to receive full credit (where applicable).
- **Late homework will be penalized/not accepted.**
  - Homework will be considered late if not in my office by 3:00 on the due date unless prior arrangements have been made.
  - Homework will be accepted until the assignment is returned to the class–but it will be penalized unless prior arrangements have been made.

**Exams 1/2/3/4:**

- Make-up exams will not be possible without prior arrangements–and the reason for missing an exam must be compelling and perhaps more importantly, documented. Exams taken after the scheduled date will be more difficult.
- Exams will resemble homework problems and problems done in class.
- You may earn the ability to have your lowest Exam 1–4 grade dropped by submitting additional assigned problems on exam days. If you earn an average of 85 or better on these problems and have taken all four exams, then your lowest grade will be dropped and the remaining three exams will be weighted 20% each.
Additional Assigned Problems:

◊ The problems will be collected on Exam 1/2/3/4 days.
◊ For full credit, the problems must be turned in **before** the exam.
◊ Problems received after 12:30 on exam day will not receive any credit.
◊ The grade will be based on completeness and level of effort.
◊ The list of problems for each exam is on the homework sheet.
◊ Rationale: one learns mathematics by doing mathematics.

Final Exam:

◊ Will be cumulative.

General Philosophy/Attendance:

◊ College prepares you for a professional position.
◊ In the working world, **you** are responsible for your career and **you** are accountable for your decisions. For example, class attendance is expected (just as you are expected to go to work), but not required.

Important Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day, no class</td>
<td>September 6, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add a class</td>
<td>September 10, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Exam</td>
<td>September 17, 2010 (subject to change)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Exam</td>
<td>October 8, 2010 (subject to change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Break, no class</td>
<td>October 15, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to withdraw</td>
<td>October 29, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third Exam</td>
<td>October 29, 2010 (subject to change)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth Exam</td>
<td>November 19, 2010 (subject to change)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Break, no class</td>
<td>November 26, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>MWF 10: December 14, 2010, 10:15–12:15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MWF 11: December 13, 2010, 10:15–12:15</td>
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</tbody>
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Students with Disabilities:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have a medical and/or safety concern to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.