MATH 107   **College Algebra**   **Fall 2008**

Instructor: Dr. Bowen Brawner   **Office: MATH 235c**
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Math Office Phone: 968-9168   **Office Hours: MT ThF   9:20 – 10:20**
                                                                    W 2:00 – 3:00 or by appointment.

Textbook & Materials: *College Algebra with Modeling and Visualization,*, by Gary
                                                   Rockswold, 3rd ed. Graphing Calculator (TI-83(+) or TI-84 is the
                                                   calculator of choice) My Math Lab access code.

Mission: The mission of this course is to provide experiences for students to improve critical thinking skills. Students will have opportunity to refine their problem solving abilities as they learn fundamental algebraic concepts.

Course Objectives: After successfully completing this course, the student should be able to do the following:
1. Perform basic algebraic operations in order to solve quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, rational, and systems of non-linear equations.
2. Solve applications involving quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions.
3. Represent functions numerically, graphically, symbolically, and verbally, both by hand and using appropriate technology.
4. Perform algebraic manipulations to combine and decompose functions.
5. Find the inverse of a function.
6. Identify and work with arithmetic and geometric sequences and series.
7. Select and implement appropriate problem solving strategies.
8. Use mathematical modeling to solve problems.

Grading System:

Homework/Quizzes: 20% (No late work.)

Exams: 60%

Final Exam: 20% The final exam will be will be comprehensive.

Final Exam: The final exam will include departmental questions and it will be comprehensive. The final will be given on **at a common time; check the catalog for date and time.** Rooms for the final will be announced at a later time.

University Policy: Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the policies and information contained in the Tarleton Student Handbook. [See the TSUSH]

Student Responsibilities: The student is *solely* responsible for:
•   Completing each assignment by the specified due date.
•   Obtaining assignments and other materials for classes from which they are absent.
•   Utilizing, as needed, all available study-aid options (including meeting with the instructor, referring to outside texts, etc.) to resolve any questions that they might have regarding homework, course material, and/or projects.
•   Giving as much of an effort as it takes to pass this course.

Academic Conduct: Any student guilty of academic dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism in academic work shall be subject to disciplinary action. [TSUSH] The instructor may initiate disciplinary action in any case of academic misconduct.

Services for Students with Disabilities: Students with documented disabilities may request reasonable accommodations that will enable them to participate in and benefit from all educational programs and activities. Successful accommodation often requires advance planning. Therefore, all students are strongly encouraged to make early contact with Trina Geye, Director of Student Disability Services, at (254) 968-9400 or geye@tarleton.edu, in order to identify their needs and to ensure that services will be available in an effective and timely manner. [TSUSH]

Absence Policy: Class absence policies will be established and enforced by each individual course instructor. The course instructor may recommend to the Dean of Students that a student be dropped from a course if excessive absences prevent satisfactory progress. [TSUSH]

Makeup Policy: Each course instructor has the responsibility and authority to determine if work can be made-up because of absences. [TSUSH] Students may request make-up considerations for valid and verifiable reasons such as the following:
- Illness
- Death in the immediate family
- Legal proceedings
- Participation in sponsored University activities (It is the responsibility of students who participate in University-sponsored activities to obtain a written explanation for their absence from the faculty/staff member who is responsible for the activity.)

Drop Policy: Students will not be allowed to drop a freshman math or English course until after mid-semester except with the approval of their academic dean. The last day for dropping courses is identified in the University Calendar.

Calculator Policy: Each student will be required to have an approved graphing calculator available for use. The TI-83(+) or TI-84 is the recommended choice but other TI models (TI-82, TI-85, TI-86, etc.) or other brands are acceptable. Teachers will use primarily the TI-82, TI-83(+), or TI-84 models designed for overhead projectors. Students using other brands are responsible for learning how to operate their calculators.   The instructor reserves the right to prohibit the use of calculators on certain assignments or tests. Any calculators that are equipped with computer/symbolic algebra systems (like the TI-92 or the HP 4800 series calculators) are not acceptable for use in College Algebra.

Study Aids:
- The Mathematics Clinic offers to all students enrolled in remedial and freshman-level mathematics courses an opportunity to obtain free tutoring. Tutors are available in room 203 from 8 am to 6 pm Monday through Thursday, and 8 am to 1 pm on Friday.
- The university offers several programs through which students may obtain free or reduced-fee private tutoring. Interested students should visit the Teaching and Learning Center for more details.
- The mathematics department maintains a list of students who are interested in tutoring privately. Students who are interested in obtaining private tutoring or serving as private tutors should visit the department office for more information.

Notes:
- In the event that the university is closed for a scheduled class time, whatever was scheduled for that day and/or whatever was due that day will be scheduled and/or due on the next scheduled class time.
- You are expected to present a TSU ID upon request.
- **All items contained in this syllabus are subject to change as the semester progresses. Students will be notified in advance of any changes.**