

Instructor: Patrick 'Guy' Adams
Office: Faculty room (Arcata branch of CR)
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Prerequisite: Math 105 or 106, with a grade of C or better, appropriate score on the assessment exam. Prerequisites help to ensure that you are enrolled in the class most appropriate for your goals and success.

Course Description: A course in which functions are investigated graphically, numerically, symbolically and verbally in real world settings. Linear, quadratic, absolute value, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic equations and functions are explored, as well as systems of equations. Technology is integrated into all aspects of the course.

Text: You have three options for your text.

- The text dvd handed out in class.
- A printed copy can be ordered at the bookstore.
- The text webpage.

You will find more detailed information at the following link:

<http://msenux.redwoods.edu/wagner/math120/IntAlgText.pdf>

Materials: You will need to obtain the following for this class:

- A scientific calculator with a graphing package. The **TI-83+** or **TI-84** are **HIGHLY** recommended. If you are going to buy a new calculator, buy a TI-84. We also can rent you one for the semester for \$25.
- Lots of graph paper (cheap stuff will be fine). Printable paper is available via Blackboard.
- A ruler or straight edge.
- d) A three-ring binder to keep your work in.
- e) A Comp Book. You will use this throughout the course to build yourself a reference book.
- Lots of PENCILS and ERASERS!

GRADES

Grade Breakdown:

Sum of tests and quizzes =	60%
Homework =	30%
Quizzes & Activities =	10%

Grades will be assigned based on the overall quality of work submitted in the form of homework, quizzes, activities, and exams. Generally, a student with 90-100% will earn an A, 80-89% a B, 70-79% a C, 60-69% a D, and less than 60% an F.

Homework: An assignment from the text will be collected daily and each assignment will have a value of 5 points. Late assignments will receive a maximum of 3 points and sloppy or otherwise unsatisfactory papers will be returned un-graded.

Hints to maximize your homework scores:

- Write with pencil only and fully erase errors.
- Write your name, the course name, and the section number of the assignment in the upper right corner of the first page.
- Show all work neatly and completely.
- Work problems vertically, with spaces between problems.
- Staple all pages together in the upper left corner.

/ Staple in / upper left corner	Your Name Math 120 HW Section #
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The homework assignments are listed on Blackboard (if you lose your printed copy.) You may ask questions about the homework in class, but you need to get in the habit of seeking help outside of class.

The problem sets are graded on three areas: completeness, general correctness, and presentation. Each of the three areas needs to be covered to earn the 5 points. Note: homework is done in pencil and mistakes are erased.

	Completeness	Correctness (based on sample)	Presentation
5 points	All complete. Each part of every problem is included and addressed.	Perfect, or nearly so. Demonstrates excellent understanding of ideas in the assignment. Displays critical thinking.	Excellent! Clear, easy to read and to follow. Communicates clearly.
4 points	nearly all complete (over 80%)	Very well done, but unclear and/or some obvious errors. Demonstrates solid understanding.	Very good. Generally presented well.
3 points	more than half complete	Many errors or may be unclear, contain many vague items, appear unoriginal or offer relatively little that is new.	OK. Can follow, but not easy to read, or somewhat disorganized
2 points	less than half complete	Roughly half or so is incorrect. Demonstrates little understanding.	Confusing. Difficult to follow and understand what is being presented
1 point	more than nothing but significantly less than half	Less than half is correct. Does not demonstrate understanding of ideas in assignment. Shows minimal comprehension of assignment or minimal lack of effort.	Extremely difficult to follow or understand.
0 points	nothing done	None correct	Incomprehensible

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given on material covered in class and in the text. If you have a valid excuse for missing a quiz, you will have one week to schedule a make-up. After this week, no make-ups will be offered. Please note that some quizzes and homework assignments may be performed on-line with CR's Optimath program.

Exams: Two, maybe three, midterm exams will be given during the semester, each one will cover material from your text. Makeup exams will be given only to those who notify me in advance with a valid excuse. These must be made up within one week of the scheduled exam date. Students who have special needs in terms of testing environments must let me know before the first exam and provide me with the appropriate documentation from the LAC. Each midterm exam will be scheduled with at least one week of lead-time and will be valued at 100 points.

Final Exam: The final exam will be comprehensive and will be valued at 200 points. The date of the final exam will be posted here once it has been scheduled.

Attendance: I expect you to attend class every day and to be on time. If you miss a day, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed. Out of courtesy, I expect that you will remain seated until excused. If you must leave early, I would appreciate being notified before class.

Classroom environment: It is expected that everyone involved in this class, teacher and students alike, will act in a manner conducive to providing a comfortable environment for learning, a classroom where students feel free to ask and answer questions without fear of embarrassment or ridicule. It is important to stay on task when class is in session. Hence, conversation not pertaining to the subject at hand should be taken outside the classroom. I understand that students will have to get up and leave the room for various reasons and I also understand that students will arrive late from time to time. However, courtesy requires that you enter and leave as quietly as possible, without disturbing discussion or presentation. It is essential for student success to maintain a good environment in the classroom. If you have any personal difficulties with the learning environment in the classroom, please visit me in my office to discuss them. **Cell Phones:** If your cell phone rings during class or you take a text message in class, you will be asked to apologize to your colleagues.

Getting Help:

Office hours: You are encouraged to come to my office hours for assistance with homework or clarification of course material. If my office hours are not convenient for you, please make an appointment to see me at a convenient time.

e-mail: I check my e-mail frequently. This is a good medium for contacting me.

Homework groups: I strongly encourage you to form groups to discuss and compare homework problems. Explaining a solution to a classmate is an excellent way to improve your own understanding.

TUTORS AND MATH 152: There is free tutoring service available for this class. I highly recommend that you take advantage of it. The service is located in the library in the Academic Support Center (ASC). Math 152 is a lab course that offers 0.5 to 1.0 units of credit to get assistance with your math skills. If math has been a struggle or you are in search of the “A” grade, I strongly recommend Math 152. It has been very successful in helping students achieve their goals in mathematics.

Blackboard: I have set up a Blackboard site for this course. This site is where the homework outline, this syllabus, and the course spreadsheet are accessible. It is also where you can contact other members of the class. Please use this resource. I will be using Blackboard to send out emails to the class and it would be helpful if you check that your email is up-to-date on Blackboard. Please feel free to ask for assistance on using Blackboard.

The above information is subject to change. If it does, I will announce this in class.