

Syllabus

Math 186 – Precalculus

Fall 2007

June Decker

4 Credit Hours

course number 30186

class meets M/W 8-9:50 AM in Thames 220

My office is one of the temporary cubicles among the other faculty in the shop wing at the Mohegan Campus.

My Office Hours are as follows:

- Mohegan office from 9:15 till 10:30 on Fridays
- Thames library, from 2-2:45 on Tues/Thurs
- Thames room 220 from 7:30 to 8 AM on Wednesdays

Class or Office Hours cancellations will be posted on VistaWebCT: <http://vista.ctdlc.org>.

My email is jdecker@trcc.commnet.edu

Cell phone: 860-377-7788

Mohegan office phone 860-892-5747

Tutor Center (TASC) services are free to TRCC students. You may go to either of the tutor areas in the Mohegan or Thames Library. Video lectures are available at the libraries, as well. A set of videos at the thames library may be checked out for 3 days at a time.

Course Description

This course prepares students for the study of Calculus I. The topics include polynomial and rational functions and their graphs, operations on radical expressions, matrices, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and their graphs, trigonometric identities, trigonometric applications, and determinants.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Intermediate Algebra or appropriate score on math Placement Test

Required Materials

Textbook: Precalculus, 5th ed. by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin, and Saleem Watson
Graphing Calculator (recommend a TI- 83, 84 or 89)

Useful Internet addresses

Vista WebCT for course information: <http://vista.ctdlc.org>

Publishers Website <http://www.thomsonedu.com>

Three Rivers Community College website: <http://www.trcc.commnet.edu>

Grades

Final grades for the course are available to students after Dec 28, 2007 (some sooner) on www.online.comnet.edu (this is called “banner”). Determination of your grade will be based on the following:

Tests. There will be four tests worth 100 points each and a comprehensive final exam. The final exam will be weighted twice. Make ups on tests will be allowed at the discretion of the instructor. If you miss the final exam, an incomplete will be given for the course in accordance with college policy. The final exam is mandatory. Scoring 50% or better on the final exam is necessary but not sufficient to pass the course.

Quizzes and take-home exercises . Quizzes, announced or unannounced, will be given throughout the course. Homework. Please do the homework in order to learn the material. How well you do the homework will be reflected in your performance on tests. Occasionally, I will ask you to hand in homework problems for a “quiz grade” or “take home exercise”. The arithmetic average of your quiz grades, take home problems, and homework will be weighted as one test (100 points).

Projects. There will be two projects assigned during the semester. The two projects are worth 50 points each.

Your final grade will be determined by adding the four semester exams, the quiz, homework and problem set average, the project average and the final exam (weighted twice) and dividing the sum by eight.

Grade Equivalents

A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

A passing grade of D- or better is required to go on to Calculus 1. However, mastery of the material in Precalc is suggested before you enroll in Calc 1.

Withdrawal Policy A “drop or withdrawal” from the course will be accepted through the 10th week of classes in accordance with the designated withdrawal deadlines. Students need to fill out the special withdrawal form available at the registrar’s office: Withdrawals are processed only through the Registrar’s Office at (860) 892-5756 or the Subbase at (860) 445-5575. **Students who do not withdraw, but stop attending will be assigned an "F".**

Disabilities Statement If you are a student with a disability and believe you will need accommodations for this class, it is your responsibility to contact the disabilities Counseling Services at 383-3240. To avoid any delay in the receipt of accommodations, you should contact the counselor as soon as possible. Please note that I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from the disabilities counselor.

Emergency closings are posted on the college website: www.trcc.commnet.edu, recorded on the college phone 860-886-0177, or broadcast on TV or radio. If there is a delayed opening or if morning classes are cancelled, we will meet at the usual class time of 12:30 . To the extent that I am able, I will post cancellation notices, both school wide and for our class only, on Vista WebCT, so be sure to check Vista to see if classes or office hours are cancelled. I will communicate any changes about what to study or what homework to do via VistaWebCt: <http://vista.ctdlc.org>