

**MATH 1113 SYLLABUS**  
SHORT SUMMER TERM 2008

Course Number: Math 1113

Course Name: Precalculus

Lecture Time: MWF 2:50-4:45 p.m.

Lecture Room: Howey (Physics) L2

Instructor: Allen Hoffmeyer  
Office: Skiles 146B  
Office Phone: 404-385-7497  
Email Address: [ahoff@math.gatech.edu](mailto:ahoff@math.gatech.edu)  
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:30-2:30pm

Course Web Page: <http://www.math.gatech.edu/~ahoff>

Contacting me: I encourage you to contact me by email. I try to check email daily and to respond to questions quickly. Please don't be afraid to set up other appointment times if you are having trouble getting in touch with me.

Recitation Time: TuTh 2:50-4:45 pm

Recitation TAs and Rooms: SF1/SS1, Lacy Hardcastle, Skiles 246  
SF2, Noah Streib, Skiles 270  
SF3, Nicole Larsen, Skiles 256

Required Text: Precalculus, Seventh Edition, by Larson and Hostetler

Material: The topics include algebra, trigonometry, conic sections, and limits. Specifically we will cover chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 as well as sections 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 6.1, 6.2, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.7, and Appendix A.7. Time permitting, we will also cover sections 6.5, 9.4, and limits.

**Grading.** We will have daily in-class worksheets (23), four in-class exams (50 minute exams), and one final exam, scored as follows.

In-class Worksheets (23)	115 points
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Exam 1	57 points
Exam 2	58 points
Exam 3	58 points
Exam 4	57 points
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>230 points</u>
TOTAL	575 points

Please note that the final exam is 40% of your grade! So, you should make sure to start your studying early since the final exam could mean the difference between an A and a D. Letter grades will be based on your accumulated points at the end of the semester, according to standard 90%, 80%, 70%, 60% cutoffs:

517.5 – 575	A
460 – <517.5	B
402.5 – <460	C
345 – <402.5	D
0 – <345	F

**In-class Worksheets and Attendance.** The in-class worksheets are very important for success in this class. They will be done during lecture class and during one of the two weekly recitation sessions. You will be required to work with a partner, but you are not allowed to give or receive help from another group. Also, you are NOT allowed to use a calculator to do these worksheets. The in-class worksheets serve two purposes. First, they are intended to facilitate a deeper understanding of the material presented during lectures. Second, they are meant to meaningfully assign a grade for attendance. The worksheets are worth five (5) points each and only a portion of the worksheet problems will be graded. Attendance, therefore, is vitally important to your success in this class. Attendance to EVERY class is MANDATORY. There are grade penalties that will be assessed for unexcused absences. If you have 0-1 unexcused absences, then no penalty will be imposed. If you have 2 unexcused absences, then your cumulative worksheet grade will be cut in HALF at the end of the semester. If you have 3 unexcused absences, then your cumulative worksheet grade will be divided by 4 at the end of the semester. If you have 4 or more unexcused absences, then you will receive a ZERO for your cumulative worksheet grade at the end of the semester. This means that you will receive a score of 0 points for 20% of your grade. In this case, the maximum total score you could get is 460 points. Please see the section entitled "Absences" in order to determine what is and is not an excused absence. In the case of an excused absence, you do not need to make up the missed worksheet. On your first excused absence, you would be graded out of 22 days instead of 23 and your final grade will be adjusted up to be out of 23 days (i.e. if you had one excused absence during the semester and had a total of 95 points (out of 110 NOT 115), then your worksheet grade would be  $95/110 = 86.3$ . Your equivalent points out of 115 would be  $.863*115 = 99.2$ ). Additional excused absences will be treated in exactly the same way. However, if you have an unexcused absence, then you will get a 0/5 for that one worksheet. So, if you had one

unexcused absence and a total of 95 points on the worksheets, then you would receive a 95/115.

**Homework.** There is no graded homework for this course. However, there is a list on the course website of suggested problems from the book that you should understand before the test is given. It is in your best interest to do these problems as homework for your own benefit. The tests will be loosely based on the problems that are suggested from the book.

**Exams.** The dates for the exams are:

Exam 1	Thursday, June 26 (in class)
Exam 2	Wednesday, July 2 (in class)
Exam 3	Thursday, July 10 (in class)
Exam 4	Thursday, July 17 (in class)
Final Exam	Thursday, July 31, 11:30am–2:20pm

The exams are closed-book and closed-notes and the final exam is comprehensive. Before each test, you will be required to sign a cover sheet that provides specific rules for each exam. By signing the cover sheet you are agreeing to abide by those rules in addition to any rules listed in the syllabus. You should read the cover sheet carefully. Saying that you didn't see a specific rule will not be a valid defense for breaking a rule.

Makeup exams are given under NO circumstances. If you have a university approved excuse to miss an exam, then you MUST let the instructor (NOT the TA) know BEFORE the exam will take place (e-mail is probably the best way to alert the instructor). In this case, your final exam grade will take the place of the missed exam. If your reason for missing is an emergency and you cannot let me know prior to the exam, then I will consider these situations on a case by case basis. Please see the section entitled "Absences" for the class policy on excused absences. Note, if your reason for missing an exam is not valid under the institute's policy, it is solely at the discretion of the instructor as to whether or not you will be allowed to substitute your final exam grade for the missed exam. Finally, note that during exam days you will meet with your class for the entire time even though the exam will only take 50 minutes.

**Absences.** There are only two cases under which an absence will be excused. The first is if it satisfies the Institute's excused absence policy. Please see the website

[http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/about\\_us/faq\\_students.html#5](http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/about_us/faq_students.html#5)

for information regarding the Institute's policies. In this case, you MUST notify the instructor (NOT the TA) BEFORE the absence takes place (e-mail is the best way to alert the instructor). If your reason for missing is an emergency and it is not possible to notify the instructor before an absence takes place, then these situations will be considered on a case by case basis at the instructor's discretion. The second form of an excused absence

is any absence not covered by the institute's policy. In this case, you still need to notify the instructor as soon as possible. The instructor will decide if an excuse is valid or not valid. These exceptions will be VERY rare, so you should assume that most reasons for an absence not covered by the Institute's policy will not be considered excused. Just to be clear, if your reason for missing an exam is not valid under the institute's policy, it is solely at the discretion of the instructor as to whether or not you will be allowed to substitute your final exam grade for the missed exam. The following is a short list (not all inclusive) of reasons for an absence that will not be excused: family going out of town, overslept, forgot about the exam. Please see the Dean of Student's faq on the subject of excused absences at [http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/about\\_us/faq\\_students.html#5](http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/about_us/faq_students.html#5)

**Class Policies.** Please show common courtesy to your fellow classmates and instructors. Turn off all cellular phones and pagers BEFORE each lecture, recitation, and exam. Refrain from conversing with your fellow students during class (except during class discussions). Do not converse with other groups during the daily worksheets.

**Problem Resolution.** If you have any questions regarding my policies, then e-mail me or see me during my office hours. If you have a question or concern with your recitation section, then please approach your TA first and try to resolve the issue. If you still have questions or concerns that have not been addressed, then please come see the instructor.

**Regrades.** If you feel that your test has been graded incorrectly, then you can re-submit it to your TA for a regrade. Please fill out the regrade form on the website, staple it to the front of your exam, and return it to your TA. Exams with additional writing on it will NOT be accepted for regrades. It is best to not write on your exam after you get it back until you are sure that you do not need a regrade. Regrade requests will only be accepted for a week (7 days) after the exams are handed back to you. So, if you get a test back on Tuesday, then exam regrade requests will no longer be accepted starting the next Wednesday. This deadline is firm and will only be waived in case of an emergency. This is completely at the discretion of the instructor (NOT your TA). Once you turn in your exam, it will be returned to the person who graded the exam for regrading. If you still have questions concerning the grading of your exam, then feel free to come and see me. Please make sure to request a formal regrade before coming to me. I will not regrade exams that have not already been formally regraded by the person who originally graded them. NOTE: Regrades will only be granted if your exam has been graded in error. Exams will not be regraded because a student feels that they deserve more points than they received.

**Cheating and Academic Dishonesty.** Please understand that we take cheating seriously at Georgia Tech. Any appearance of cheating will be reported to the Dean of Students office. From there, they will decide whether or not a cheating offense has taken place. In this class cheating extends way beyond the traditional definitions of cheating (i.e. using materials not allowed during the exam, talking during exams, helping or receiving help from another student during the class period, etc.). Of course traditional cheating

on the exams will be reported immediately to the Dean of Students office. Some of the following are offenses that will result in being reported to the Dean of Students office:

- Any attempt by a student to circumvent or otherwise deceive the instructor or TAs on their attendance during a class period (i.e. showing up repeatedly only during the worksheet portion of a class)
- Discussing the in-class worksheets with another group
- Misleading the instructor about the reason for an absence
- Any abuse of the regrade system (i.e. submitting a test for a regrade that was written on after the return of the exams, misleading the instructor or TAs in any way about a regrade)

Please note that the specific examples listed in this section are NOT exhaustive. Any time the instructor or TA feels that cheating has taken place (for ANY reason), then the student will be reported to the Dean of Students office. If you notice cheating, then please report it to me by way of e-mail. Reporting possible cheating offenses will help keep someone from getting a grade that they haven't earned. The institute honor code is available at

[http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity/policies/honor\\_code.php](http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity/policies/honor_code.php)

**Success at Georgia Tech (Note from the Instructor).** I know that the course will be tough, but I am really very concerned with making sure that you succeed at GT. The calculus classes here are very rigorous, and so I want to make sure that you have all of the tools you need to succeed in those classes. I hope you take advantage of all the resources that are available to you. If you have any questions, then please feel free to e-mail me or come by my office hours. If you are unable to make my office hours, then please don't hesitate to e-mail me and set up an appointment. My aim is that this course be a substantial preparation for any future math classes you might encounter.

**Ways to Get Help.** There are several ways of getting help. The first, and probably the easiest, is to come by the instructor or TA's office hours. If you are unable to make the office hours, then you can e-mail them to set up an appointment. Also, the math department has the Math Lab which is located in Skiles 257 and offers tutoring to math students. Please see the website at <http://www.math.gatech.edu/academic/undergraduate/mathlab.html> for hours of operation and other information. Also, please see the following website which gives a comprehensive list of tutoring opportunities:

<http://www.math.gatech.edu/academic/undergraduate/PDFs/tutors.pdf>