

Math 25 Tue & Thu 9-10:50AM
Room: MER 12

Spring 2010

Instructor: Greg Perkins
Office: C283, 755-6705
Email: gsperk@sbcglobal.net
Office Hours: M, W & F 9-10 AM

GRADES

90-100 A
80-89 B
70-79 C
60-69 D
Below 60 F

Text: **College Algebra** (3rd ed.), Barnett, Ziegler, Byleen, Sobecki
Calculator: Texas Instruments TI-84 or similar
Problem Set package sold in the bookstore.

Throughout this class we will be using the TI-84 to help perform calculations. I strongly recommend that you acquire one and become familiar with it as soon as possible, if you haven't already. I will be explaining how to use the calculator in class.

PLEASE BE ON TIME! Each tardy will count as half an absence. Students will be dropped after 4 absences.

No use of headphones or cell phones in class.

Homework is extremely important! I will assign homework every day. It is vital for you to keep up with the work as we go along. **I will collect homework each TUESDAY.** There will be two types of homework. The homework that I assign from the textbook will be graded on completion only. You will get one homework point for each problem done completely. The other type of homework is Problem Sets that I have created. These require more thinking and usually require written explanations. These will be graded on correctness. You can buy them in the bookstore or download them from my website listed below. Please staple all homework together with the completed problem set on top.

NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!!

Unannounced quizzes will be given. The quizzes will be based on the homework and lectures.

NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES WILL BE GIVEN!!

There will be four in-class exams. I will drop your worst exam score.

NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN!!

Homework 20%
Handouts 20%
Quizzes 10%
Exams 30%
Final 20%

The final is comprehensive and will take place
Thursday May 27 from 8AM to 11AM.

You can find class assignments and check your grade at

www.hartnell.edu/faculty/gperkins

Please feel free to ask questions in class. If you have a question, then most likely there are several other people in class with the same question. Also, feel free to come by my office and ask questions. If you cannot make it during the office hour, then we can try to arrange to meet at another time.

In this class we will be using a software program by the name of ALEKS. The program can evaluate a student in about 30 minutes and determine which areas the student needs to work on in order to succeed in Precalculus. It then takes the student through practice problems until they are ready to progress to the next level. You can always see your progress in ALEKS, as it reports a percentage to you. At the end of the 6th week of class, this percentage will be used as your grade for ALEKS.

The grade you earn for ALEKS will count for up to 5% extra credit. This is the only form of extra credit offered in this class. You may think 5% doesn't sound like much, but that is half a letter grade. At the end of the semester the person with 88% in the class gets a B and the person with 88% in the class and did the ALEKS program gets an A.

This will require an extra time commitment on your part, but in most cases it takes less time and effort than to find a tutor that can evaluate your skills and explain the missing details in a helpful manner.

To begin, you will need to log on to www.aleks.com and go to the link [SIGN UP NOW!](#)

On the next page enter our class code **JKXHK-WXULK**

After this you will be guided through a series of setup pages.

Once your account is set up, you will be taken through a mini tutorial about how to type math symbols into ALEKS. Finally, you will be asked about 25 Algebra/Precalculus questions. This is what ALEKS uses to see what you are good at and what you need help with. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FOR THIS ASSESSMENT.** If you fake it in any way, ALEKS might set up a program for you that skips things you need to know or requires you to review things that you actually know.

If you have any problems with the ALEKS program, please contact:

ALEKS Customer Service

Hours: 5AM-6PM

www.support.aleks.com