Math 54 Algebra for Statistics

Section: 33854  Instructor: Yan Tian
Days: M, W, F  Office: NS 355G
Time: 9 – 10:50 a.m.  Phone: 760-744-1150 ext 2806
Location: NA2  Email: ytian@palomar.edu
Website: http://math.palomar.edu/ytian/

Office Hours  M-F: 11-12noon, NS355G
Tu: 12-1pm; Th: 6-8pm; Math Center

Textbook  Math Lit. by Kathleen Almy and Heather Foes with MyMathLab

Prerequisites  A grade of “C” or better in Math 15 or eligibility determined by placement test

Scope of Course
This is a one semester course intended for non-math and non-science majors. The focus of the course is on developing mathematical maturity through problem solving, critical thinking, writing and communication of mathematics. Please visit my website for Homework Assignments, Syllabus, and other review materials. http://math.palomar.edu/ytian/

Supplies need to bring to every class
1. Assigned textbook and access to MyMathLab, course ID: tian40613.
2. Scientific calculator
3. A pack of 3” x 5” cards
4. Pencils and a good eraser

Course Objectives
The successful students will be able to:
- Formulate algebraic models to represent relations from tables, graphs and problem situations
- Investigate and compare multiple representations of functions
- Analyze linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions from graphic, numeric and analytical perspectives
- Solve application problems using various functions and interpret the solutions
- Identify and apply principles of algebra manipulation to write expressions and equations in alternative forms
- Apply critical and mathematical reasoning skills necessary in algebraic problem solving

Grading Policy
Homework Assignments and Quizzes: 20%
• Homework from MyMathLab counts 10%. Homework can be completed late up until the day of the exam on that cycle, but 10% of the score will be deducted for late work.

• Homework from textbook counts 5%. The daily assignment will correspond to the section covered in class each day. It will be checked for completion.
  2 points – all done,
  1 point – mostly done
  0 points - mostly unfinished

• Quizzes count 5% The weekly quiz will be based on the homework from textbook. The paper and pencil homework from the text should be completed before the following class period.

Focus Problems:
Focus problems will be assigned to develop mathematical concepts. The complete guidelines will be given. Students will be assigned to groups to work on the focus problems. Groups will be graded on the analysis and solution to the problem, including appropriate use of mathematics, grammar and sentence structure and neatness. Each member of the group should have a complete copy of the group’s work. Projects turned in late will lose 10% of the possible points for each day that they are late.

Tests: 40%
There will be 4 exams, worth 10% each. Makeup tests will not be given. If you miss an exam due to illness, your final exam score will be used to replace that missed test. If you know that you need to take a test early, please notify me as soon as you know. If you are involved in athletics or other activities that require you to miss class and you will miss class the day of a test, you must notify me at least 2 days in advance so that I can arrange for you to take the test early.

Final Exam: 15%
Final exam will be comprehensive. It is required that you take the final exam in order to pass the class.

Final Grades:

A  90%–100%  excellent
B  80%–89%  above average
C  70%–79%  average
D  60%–69%  below average
F  0%–59%  failing

Attendance
Please notify the instructor if you are going to be absent. Two or more consecutive unexcused absences could result in student being dropped. Students may be dropped at any time if 25% of classes have been missed. Students may be dropped if not doing homework or not taking a test without reasonable excuses.
Dishonor
Students caught violating the Palomar Community College policy on academic Integrity will meet with the consequences of that policy. (300.3)

Students with Disabilities
Please meet me to discuss testing accommodations during the first week.

Useful Information

- Attend classes
- Focus on the classroom lectures
- Participate in interactive study
- Do homework
- Form study groups or find study buddies

Find Help
- Visit the instructor during the office hours or make an appointment with the instructor
- Visit Mathematics Learning Center to get free tutoring
- Visit the library’s tutoring center to get free tutoring