FD 02

MATH 103 04 – College Algebra
Course Syllabus Fall 2002

Instructor: Mavourneen Wilcox
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Office hours: To be announced

Class time and location:
MWF 1:00-1:50pm in Henry Hall Room 33

Prerequisite:
MA102 or by placement test or equivalent

Course Goals:
Algebra for college students is a course that gives the student a firm foundation in the fundamentals of algebra. This course is meant to prepare the student for entry into MA110, precalculus. Emphasis will be placed on manipulation of algebraic expressions (polynomials, rational expressions, radical expressions), in solving equations and inequalities; basic concepts and computational skills in exponential and logarithmic functions, and in probability. Throughout the class students will learn to identify and express mathematical ideas graphically, numerically, symbolically, and in writing.

Course Description:
This course provides a logical approach to algebraic topics used in problem solving. Emphasis is placed on equations and inequalities; polynomials, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions; and graphing and data analysis/modeling.

Topics include:
Graphs, equations of lines, basic concepts of functions, linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, rational exponents, radicals, quadratic equations and inequalities, exponential and logarithmic functions and other selected topics.

Text:
Algebra for college students 6th edition
Authors: Gustafson/Frisk
Publisher: Brooks/Cole

Materials:

Scientific calculators are permitted, although not required. Regular college-ruled notebook paper or graph paper should be used. All graphs must be drawn on graph paper or produced on a computer program. Your homework should be in a notebook separate from your class notes.

Instructional Method:

A variety of instructional methods will be used including lecture, demonstrations of problem-solving applications, individual activities, group activities.

Attendance Requirements:

Students who expect to be absent need to qualify for an excused absence, the student should notify the instructor prior to class time and written verification, such as a physician's statement, may be required upon the student's return. Attendance at all written tests and final exam is required. Students wishing to withdraw must do so within the allowed add/drop period. Please review the academic withdrawal policy.

Evaluation and Grading Techniques:

The course grade will be determined by homework assignments and tests. Homework will be assigned weekly and due the following week. The grading scale is as follows:

Homework:	25%
Tests:	50%
Final:	25%

Homework's and tests will be graded numerically and the final numerical average will be converted to a letter grade according to the following scale:

90-100	=	A
80- 89	=	B
70- 79	=	C
Below 70	=	F