Homework 1 / Orientation

MATH 1021: Precalulus - Algebra

Due Friday, 9/22/2017

Before the next class, please read:

a) Syllabus & Homework Guidelines

b) To the Student (page xvii)

c) Sections 1.1 - 1.3 (pages 1- 33)

Homework:

Syllabus "Quiz" - Due by 11:59 PM on Friday, 9/22/2017

Please complete the Syllabus "Quiz" assignment, which can be found on Canvas.
(Feel free to refer to your syllabus when answering the questions.)

Biographical Survey - Due by 11:59 PM on Friday, 9/22/2017

a) Your name as it appears on the class list

b) How you would prefer that I address you in class

c) Your (intended) Major

d) Your favorite color

e) Brief description of your mathematical background

f) Brief description of why you are taking this class

g) Describe one fun thing you did over the break

h) Anything else that you think I should know about you

Homework Problems - Due by 5:00 PM on Friday, 9/22/2017

Do the following problems.
Please remember to show your work and/or explain your reasoning! Answers without supporting work or explanation will receive little or no credit.
Please put a box around your final answer.

Section 1.1 (pg 10-12:) 27, 30, 39, 48, 49, 52, 60, 67, 73, 74, 86, 87, 90

The grader may grade only a few problems closely, and will assign the rest of the points based on the completeness of the whole assignment.

Homework Guidelines for MATH 1021-04: Precalculus - Algebra, Fall 2017

Guidelines:

Mastery of the material in this course will require a lot of practice in the form of homework.[1] Assignments will be posted on the Canvas website daily and will be due at 5:00 PM on the posted due date. It is your responsibility to check the course website to find the current homework assignment and due date.

The homework that you submit each day is an opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of the course material. Homework solutions involve much more than just the final answer, since a correct final answer does not necessarily validate all the work that led up to it; just as an incorrect final answer does not represent an incorrect approach to solving a problem. Therefore, the solutions you submit should be an explanation of what you did to solve the problem, why you did it, and how you did it. As a rule of thumb, another student in a different section of this class should be able to read and understand your solution without having access to a textbook or solution key.

Policies:

In order to make life easier for everyone,[2] please follow the procedures outlined below:

Heading: In the upper right hand corner of every sheet of paper, please include your name, course and section number, the assignment number, as well as the due date. For example:

> Your Name
> MATH 1021-04
> Homework # 1
> Due: 9/22/2017

Numbering: Please list all problems in numerical order. If problems are assigned from more than one section of the text, please clearly label which section the problem came from.

Neatness: In most other classes, you will type your homework, reports, projects, and labs. You will not be required to learn how to typeset mathematics for this course, but you will be expected to turn in neat and legible work.
The best way to do this is to prepare your math homework like you would a paper in any other class by first creating a draft. I suggest that you work the problems on scratch paper, or in a homework notebook. Once you know your solutions are good, recopy them and make sure they are neat, organized, and presentable.
Please use loose leaf paper or other paper with a straight edge, and please staple the pages together.
The grader will be instructed to deduct points for messiness.

Showing Work: One of the goals of this class is to improve your mathematical communication skills, so please use proper notation at all times. In particular, pay close attention to your use of "=," be sure to show all of your steps, and explain your reasoning when necessary. Write as if your paper is being read by one of your peers who is taking the same class, but is two or three weeks behind our class material.

Deadlines: Homework is due by 5:00 PM on the due date, unless otherwise specifically mentioned on the assignment. If the grader has not already collected the homework, you may turn in your homework late. However, **once the grader has collected the homework, no late assignments will be accepted.** There will be an envelope in the hallway near my office (ENGR 408B) for turning in your homework. Please make sure your homework goes in the correct folder so that it does not get lost.

Grading Scheme: I will select a few problems from each assignment to be graded for accuracy. The rest of the homework points will be given for completeness.[3] Your two lowest homework scores will be dropped before calculating your grade at the end of the quarter.

---

[1] A rule of thumb, long espoused by college professors: on average, students need to spend at least two hours working outside of class for every hour spent in class. Since MATH 1021 meets for roughly 4.5 hours per week, you should expect to spend at least 9 hours per week studying and preparing for class.

[2] For the purposes of this document, consider "everyone" to consist of our grader, me, and you.

[3] More details will be provided after I have met with our grader to finalize the grading scheme.