

# MATH 5a: PRECALCULUS

Fall 2009

**Course Coordinator:** Professor Susan Parker, Goldsmith 114, x63053, parker@brandeis.edu.

**Instructors:** Alyson Burchardt, Jong Hyun Kim and Anna Vijayan.

**Text.** *Precalculus: Mathematics for Calculus*, Stewart, Redlin and Watson, 5th edition.

**Syllabus.** The course will cover the following sections of the text: Sections 1.1–1.5, 1.7–1.11, 2.1–2.4, 2.6–2.8, 4.1–4.4, selected sections from Chapters 5 and 6. If time allows, we will also cover Section 12.1.

**Exams.** There will be two midterm exams and a final exam.

- Exam 1: Thursday October 8th 7:00–9:00 p.m.
- Exam 2: Thursday November 5th, 7:00–9:00 p.m.
- Final Exam: Wednesday, December 9th, 9:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

noindent Midterm exams are in the evening. If you have an academic conflict (such as a class, lab, or another exam) with an exam, inform us **at least one week before the exam**. If the conflict can't be resolved, we will offer you a make-up exam.

**Grades.** Your grade in the course will be based on the following:

(1) **Homework (10% of your grade).**

- Homework assignments will be collected twice a week.
- **No late homeworks will be accepted**, but your five lowest homework grades will be dropped.
- We encourage you to discuss homework problems with your classmates, but you must write up your own solutions. You may not use any solutions manuals.

(2) **Reading quizzes (10% of your grade).**

- You must read each section of the text before it is covered in class. On the days when a reading assignment is due, there will be a 5–10 minute reading quiz at the beginning of class.
- No make-ups for reading quizzes will be given, but the lowest 25% of your reading quiz grades will be dropped.

(3) **Quizzes (10% of your grade).**

- Short quizzes will be given regularly.
- **No make-up quizzes will be given.** Missed quizzes count as zeroes, but the lowest 25% of your quiz grades will be dropped.

(4) **Two midterm exams (each 20% of your grade).**

(5) **Final exam (30% of your grade).**

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**Calculators.** You should have access to a scientific calculator. You do not need a graphing calculator in Math 5a. Calculators are **not** allowed during exams or quizzes.

**LATTE.** All course materials for Math 5a will be available online on LATTE. Log in at <http://latte.brandeis.edu> using your Unet username and password.

**Math 5a Selfquizzes.** There is a link called *Selfquizzes* on your Math 5a LATTE coursepage. The Math 5a self-quizzes cover all the material being studied in Math 5a. Complete solutions to each selfquiz are given. These selfquizzes are optional and for your use only, and have no effect on your grade.

**Office hours.** You are encouraged to use my office hours whenever you have questions about the course material. If you can't attend office hours, don't hesitate to make an appointment for another time.

**Students with disabilities.** If you are a student who needs academic accommodations because of a documented disability you should contact Professor Susan Parker and present your letter of accommodation as soon as possible. Professor Parker's email is [parker@brandeis.edu](mailto:parker@brandeis.edu) and her extension is 6-3053. If you have questions about documenting a disability or requesting academic accommodations you should contact Beth Rodgers-Kay in Undergraduate Academic Affairs at 6-3470 or at [brodgers@brandeis.edu](mailto:brodgers@brandeis.edu). Letters of accommodations should be presented at the start of the semester to ensure provision of accommodations. Accommodations cannot be granted retroactively.

**Academic Integrity.** You are expected to follow the University's policy on academic integrity, which is distributed annually as section 4 of the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (see <http://www.brandeis.edu/studentaffairs/sdc/rr/index.html>). Instances of alleged dishonesty will be forwarded to the Department of Student Development and Conduct for possible referral to the Student Judicial System. Potential sanctions include failure in the course and suspension from the University. If you have any questions about how these policies apply to your conduct in this course, please ask.