# PRECALCULUS ALGEBRA
## COURSE SYLLABUS
## FALL TERM 2006

**Professor:**    Kurt Overhiser

**Office:**    East Campus **-** Building 8, Room 206

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**Student Engagement Hours:**

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|---|---|
| Monday | 10:00am – 11:15am AND 7:00pm – 7:30pm |
| Tuesday | 4:45pm – 7:15pm |
| Wednesday | 10:00am – 11:15am AND 7:00pm – 7:30pm |
| Thursday | 4:45pm – 7:15pm |
| Friday | 7:00am – 8:30am (cell phone: 407-381-8176) |

**Course:**    MAC 1140 Precalculus Algebra

**Catalog Course Description:**
MAC 1140 is a three-credit mathematics course that prepares students for the calculus sequence. The prerequisite for this course is MAC 1105 (College Algebra) with a minimum grade of 'C' or an appropriate score on an approved assessment such as the CPT.  Topics in this course include symbolical, graphical, and numerical analyses of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, power, and rational functions.  We will also cover sequences and series, conic sections, and systems of equations.  Applications emphasizing connections with other disciplines and with the real world will be included.  A student wanting to use this course to satisfy Gordon Rule or general education requirements is required to obtain a minimum final grade of 'C' for the class.

**Required Materials:**
1.    *Precalculus with Modeling and Visualization 3rd edition* by Gary Rockswold
2.    A Graphing Calculator (the instructor will be using the TI-83 PLUS for demonstration)

**Attendance:**
Regular attendance and class participation are significant factors that promote student success in this course.  Attendance is required and will be taken every day at the beginning of class. If a student is not present at that time, he or she will be marked absent.  During those days when a student is absent, he or she is responsible for all material covered that day and for any in-class announcements given by the professor.  The instructor may exercise the authority to withdraw any student with more than six absences. There will be no excused absences.

**Homework:**
The homework assignments for this course will be given to you towards the end of each class period.  You are expected to read the textbook and review your notes as you do the assigned homework.  There will be time allotted at the beginning of each class to go over selected homework problems.  With advance notice, students may be asked to put completed homework problems up on the board for discussion.  The key for success in this course is to do the

homework.  If you are having trouble with the material, be sure to solicit help from the professor anytime during student engagement hours.

**Conics Sections Worksheet:**
Sometime during the semester you will be assigned to do a project consisting of a worksheet dealing with conic sections.  This project will be worth 100 points.  The exact details of this project will be forthcoming.

**Examinations:**
Students will be notified at least one week in advance of any upcoming examinations.  Because mathematics is a subject that builds on itself, some of the content of the exams will be cumulative in nature.  There will be four in-class exams and a comprehensive final.  Each exam will be worth 100 points and the final will be worth 200 points.  Exam problems are similar to homework problems, examples in the book and/or examples worked in class.  Not taking the final exam will result in a grade of "WF".

**Course Grade and Evaluation:**
The final course grade is based on a point system.  Four exams at 100 points each, the final exam worth 200 points, and the conic section worksheet worth 100 points gives a total of 700 possible points to earn in this course.  The final grade breakout is as follows:

630 – 700 points = A;          560 – 629 points = B;    490 – 559 points = C;
420 – 489 points = D;          0 – 419 points = F

**Make-Ups:**
NO make-up exams will be given.  In case of a medical emergency, death in the family, or legal situation, half of the final exam score will replace the missed exam once documentation is received and approved by the professor.

**Academic Dishonesty:**
All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited at Valencia.  Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, furnishing false information, forgery, alteration or misuse of documents, misconduct during a testing situation, and misuse of identification with intent to defraud or deceive.  Sanctions available to the professor should a violation occur are described in the Valencia Student Handbook or online at http://valencia.cc.fl.us/policies/PDF/10-16.pdf.

**College Withdrawal Policy:**
The College has initiated withdrawal procedures and timelines in response to legislation/rules adopted by the state legislature and State Board of Community Colleges.  The withdrawal deadline for this semester is Friday November 3, 2006.  If you withdaw or are withdrawn from the course after this deadline, you will be assigned either a WP (withdrawn passing) or a WF (withdrawn failing) based on the work you complete of to that point.  Additional information is available in the 2006-2007 College Catalog on pages 70-72.

**Tutoring:**
The Math Support Center provides walk-by tutoring on a first come first serve basis.  This center is located in building 4 inside the Instructional Media Center (IMC) on the first floor.  The IMC has limited tutoring hours.  See the posed hours outside for more details.

**Valencia Student Core Competencies:**
Valencia faculty members have defined four interrelating competencies (Think, Value, Communicate, Act) that prepare students to succeed in the world community.  These

competencies are outlined in the College Catalog.  In this course you will further your mastery of these core competencies through classroom lecture and discussion, group work, and other learning activities.

**CLAST Competencies:**
The College-Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) measures the following: reading skills, essay skill, English language skills, and mathematics skills.  To the extent possible, you will be encouraged to develop these skills as part of your work in this course. More information on the CLAST test can be found in the 2006-2007 College Catalog on pages 86-88.

**Student Code of Classroom Conduct:**
Valencia is dedicated not only to the advancement of knowledge and learning, but is concerned with the development of responsible personal and social conduct.  By enrolling at Valencia, a student assumes the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct.  The primary responsibility for managing the classroom environment rests with the professor.  Students who engage in any prohibited or unlawful acts that result in disruption of a class may be directed by the professor to leave the class.  Violation of any Valencia policies/procedures or classroom rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the College.  Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from the class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions.  Valencia's Student Code of Classroom Conduct (Policy 10-18) can be found in the current Student handbook, or online at http://valencia.cc.fl.us/policies/PDF/10-18.pdf.  Additional information is available in the 2006-2007 College Catalog on pages 73-74.

**Students with Disabilities:**
Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations may provide the instructor a notification letter from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the instructor, preferably during the first two weeks of class.  The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities.  The East Campus Office is located in Building 5, Room 216.

**Disclaimer:**
Changes in the syllabus, grading procedure, and homework assignments may be made at any time at the discretion of the professor.