MATH 260 PRECALCULUS (section 3136)                Spring 2008

Days and Time:  T,Th  4:20-6:50 pm, Bungalow 7
Instructor: Samvel Hovasapyan, contact: hovasasa@lamission.edu
Text: Swokowski Cole Precalculus, Eleventh Edition
Office Hours: T, Th 6:55-7:30 pm, Math Lab in the Learning Center.
Course Description: Math 260 reviews those algebraic concepts needed for the study of calculus including quadratic equations and inequalities, graphs of linear and quadratic functions, polynomial functions, systems of equations, conic sections. Trigonometry will include topics on trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry and applications of trigonometry.

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of the semester, students are expected to know: how to analyze and graph polynomial and rational functions; perform operations with polynomial functions; perform operations with exponential and logarithmic functions; model, solve, and graph exponential and logarithmic functions; graph trigonometric functions; prove trigonometric identities, solve trigonometric equations, construct polar equations for rectangular system equations, evaluate inverse trigonometric functions, solve triangles using the laws of sine and cosine, find the trigonometric form of complex numbers, solve and graph linear and non linear systems of equations and inequalities; decompose algebraic fractions into partial fractions; solve system of equations using matrix theory, analyze and graph conic sections: parabolas, ellipses, and hyperbolas.

Prerequisites: Math240 with a grade of “C” or better, or appropriate skill level demonstrated through the Mathematics assessment process, or by permit.

Attendance: Daily attendance is required. Absences or tardiness may affect course grade. Class will start at 4:20 pm sharp. Ten hours of absence constitutes bases of dismissal from the course. Students missing class are responsible for finding out what they missed and what is due. I suggest you to get phone numbers from a few classmates. Students are required staying up to the end of the each class meeting. Attendance will be taken twice per day. Side conversations between students that disturb the flow of the lecture will not be tolerated. Positive learning behavior is required. Cell phones during class time must be turned off or be on silent mode. It is the student's responsibility to drop the class no longer being attended.

Homework/Quizzes: Since the best way to master mathematics is to do problems. You will be required to do a lot of homework problems. Answers to odd problems are in the back of the book. You are expected to check your answers and try to correct mistakes. Your homework will be checked usually on the days of test or quizzes, but you need to be prepared to show your HW every day. NO late homework will be accepted. Any Homework can give you up to 10 points. The points will be assigned based on quality and quantity. Short and sometimes unannounced quizzes will be given at mid-chapter; they will often include problems taken directly from the HW assignment. It will help me to recognize quality of students’ works. NO make-up quizzes will be given. No quiz score will be dropped.

Tests/Exams: Every test is 100 points. Final Exam is about 150 points. The lowest test score will be dropped. NO make-up tests will be given. Approximately 5 tests will be given. No electronic devices during the tests, except scientific calculator. Show your work to receive full credit. No Credit given w/o work. Cheating is a form of theft. There is no excuse for it. You can get help as free individual and group tutoring at the Math Lab.

Classroom Participation: I highly encourage classroom participation. Taking notes is mandatory.

Grading policy: HW- 10%, Quizzes/Class participation - 10%, Tests-60%, Final exam -20%.


Important Dates:
February 19, 2008 Last day to ADD Spring 08 classes.
March 03, 2008 Last day to DROP classes, without a "W" (no refund).
May 05, 2008 Last day to DROP classes, with a "W"
May 27, 2008 - June 02, 2008 FINAL EXAMS

Good Luck! I hope we will have a successful semester.