Math 050 Summer 2014-2015

It is the prerogative of the Math 050 team to change the course during the term at our discretion. Any changes will be communicated via the course website, so be sure to check it frequently. Course announcements, exam information, and other details will be regularly posted to the course website.

You are expected to be fully aware of the following policies and expectations, so review this information carefully and ask your instructor if you have further questions.

Course Instructor

Jason Aran  math50@drexel.edu  215-571-3585  Korman 258

Course Description and Expectations

Math 050 is a zero (0) credit, six-week, self-review of the essentials of precalculus which are necessary to be successful in calculus. You will be expected to acquire problem solving skills from Algebra, Geometry, & Trigonometry, including (but not limited to):

- Reviewing algebraic tools such as completing the square & polynomial division.
- Understanding functions, functional notation, domain & range of a function, compositions of functions, and inverse functions.
- Understanding the analytic and graphical behaviors of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions.
- Mastering algebraic methods of simplifying expressions and solving equations involving the functions mentioned above.
- Reviewing geometric concepts such as distances, circles, area, and volume.

Course Materials

- **Bb Learn** is the university’s learning management system. In BbLearn, you will links to find written notes, videos, and online resources which you may find helpful as you work through the course material. To access Bb Learn, you can go to [http://learning.drexel.edu](http://learning.drexel.edu)

- **Webwork** is a free, web-based, online homework system. To access the Webwork assignments, go to [https://www.math.drexel.edu/webwork2/050-SUMMER-15-ARAN/](https://www.math.drexel.edu/webwork2/050-SUMMER-15-ARAN/). Your username is your Drexel User ID (ex. abc123) and your initial password is your Drexel University ID Number (ex. 12345678). After logging in, you may change your password by clicking on the appropriate link in the “Main Menu.”

You will have one webwork HW assignment which you should complete after finishing the ALEKS requirement. You are given an unlimited number of attempts at each question within
the assignment, until the course deadline passes. During the time that the assignment is available, you may click the “Check Answers” button. Webwork will let you know whether or not your answer is correct; if your answer is not correct, you may continue to try again as many times as needed to solve the problem correctly.

- **ALEKS** is a powerful artificial-intelligence based assessment tool that zeros in on the strengths and weaknesses of a student’s mathematical knowledge, reports its findings to the student, and then provides the student with a learning environment for bringing this knowledge up to an appropriate level for course placement. To obtain access to ALEKS, follow these directions:

  1. Go to [http://www.aleks.com](http://www.aleks.com)
  2. Click on the “SIGN UP NOW!” button
  3. Under “Using ALEKS with a Class?” you should enter course code WCGYH-NPWJF and click continue.
  4. If a course titled “Math_050_Summer_201445” appears, click continue.
  5. You will be asked whether you have used ALEKS in the past. (This is so that you can create a username if you have not already used it.)
  6. After clicking continue once more, you will be asked to enter an Access Code. You have two options. You can either click to purchase an access code online or you can purchase one from the bookstore. The cost for purchasing the code online should be $38. It is slightly higher if you purchase it from the bookstore.
  7. After entering your access code, follow the remaining prompts.

**Requirement #1: ALEKS**

After you log in to ALEKS for the first time, you will be asked to take a preliminary assessment. This assessment will have up to 30 questions and will help ALEKS determine those learning objectives in which you already have mastery and which learning objectives you should review. After completing the initial assessment, you will be shown a pie chart showing your strengths and weaknesses.

You should then work through the available modules to fill in your pie chart. Keep in mind that ALEKS will periodically issue an assessment of previous material. Your performance on these assessments will adjust your pie chart. Questions answered correctly may fill in parts of the pie. Questions answered incorrectly may subtract from your pie’s completion so that you can review those topics.

**Requirement #2: Webwork**

After completing the ALEKS requirement, you should complete the assignment on the Webwork website. The questions in this assignment represent a mix of the most important material from the ALEKS modules to make sure that you have retained what you have learned. They also have some problems which may require additional critical thinking and problem solving skills.
Requirement #3: Final Exam

After completing both the ALEKS and Webwork requirements, there will be a final exam. The exam will have 32 multiple choice questions and should be completed within 90 minutes. More specific information about the exam is available in BbLearn.

Course Grading

To earn credit for the course, you must fulfill the following requirements in order.

1. ALEKS PIE CHART REQUIREMENT
   - You should fill in your ALEKS pie chart to at least 95% completion.

2. WEBWORK
   - Correctly answer all of the problems in the Webwork assignment. (Remember that if you incorrectly answer a question, you may retry as many times as needed until you solve it correctly.)

3. FINAL EXAM SCORE
   - Your final exam score must be at least 70% to earn credit for the course.

Completing all three of these requirements will earn you a grade of CR (Credit) for the course and your Fall placement will be changed to Math 121. If you do not meet these requirements, you will earn a grade of NCR (No Credit) for the course and your Fall placement will remain unchanged from what is currently listed on your schedule.

Calculator Policy

The majority of the coursework (including the final exam) is set up so that you should not use a calculator. There may, however, be some questions in ALEKS where a calculator is recommended. For these problems only, you may use a basic scientific calculator. You should try to limit your calculator use as much as possible since you will not be allowed to use one in our calculus sequence.

Tutoring Services

Aside from the videos, there are a few options for you to receive extra help.

- You may e-mail the course instructor with questions or you may post questions on the course discussion board for help from your peers.

- You may request office hours from your instructor. To do so, e-mail math50@drexel.edu.

- You may receive extra assistance in the Math Resource Center (MRC) located in Korman 249. The MRC is a free service offered by the math department. It is staffed by faculty and teaching assistants who can help you with your math courses. No appointment is necessary. Hours and staff schedules can be found at:

  http://drexel.edu/math/resources/undergraduate/mrc/
Disabilities and Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations and services at Drexel University need to present a current accommodation verification letter (AVL) to faculty before accommodations can be made. AVL’s are issued by the Office of Disability Resources (ODR). For additional information, contact ODR:

www.drexel.edu/odr

3201 Arch St., Street, Suite 210
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215.895.1401 (V)
215.895.2299 (TTY).

Academic Honesty

Cheating and other forms of academic misconduct are serious offenses and are dealt with harshly, e.g. at the very least a 0 on an exam and a letter sent to the Office of Student Conduct. Students should be familiar with the following policies:

http://www.drexel.edu/provost/policies/academic_dishonesty.asp

Course Drop Policy

The last day that a student may drop Math 050 is Friday, August 8. To drop the course, please e-mail math50@drexel.edu by 5 pm on 8/8/14. After the drop deadline passes, you will receive a grade of NCR (No Credit) on your transcript if you decide not to complete the coursework.

Important Course Dates

- July 20: Math 050 Course Opens
- August 2: Last Day To Sign Up For Math 050
- August 7: Last Day To Drop Math 050 (by 5 pm)
- August 28: All Math 050 Course Work Must Be Completed
- August 31: Grades for Math 050 (CR/NCR) Will Be Submitted To The Registrar