

Math 102. College Algebra. Fall 2006

Class Number: 12954

Alberto Candel

SN 430

Phone: 677-6512 (office), 677-2721 (math office)

Email: alberto.candel@csun.edu

Class meets: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:00 pm—12:50 pm in SQ104.

Workshop meets: Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, 11:00 am—11:50 am in EH2021.

(Workshop Teaching Assistant: Mioara Rosculete)

Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00 pm—1:50 pm, and by appointment.

Course Web Page: <http://www.csun.edu/~ac53971/courses/math102/>

Textbook: *College Algebra* (7th edition), by M. Sullivan. We will cover the following sections of the textbook (tentatively one section per class meeting):

- Chapter 3: Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Chapter 4: Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Chapter 5: Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8
- Chapter 6: Sections 2, 3, 4,
- Chapter 7: Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 8
- Chapter 8: Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

About this class: Math 102 is the algebra portion of pre-calculus. Together with Math 104 (Trig) it is designed to prepare students for a rigorous study of Calculus. In Math 102 students should learn to represent, understand and interpret mathematical information symbolically, graphically, and numerically. They should develop mathematical models of real-world situations and use those models to make predictions and draw conclusions. They should demonstrate procedural fluency in algebra as well as an understanding of the nature of mathematical reasoning. The objectives for this class will be assessed by written examinations, quizzes, on-line homework, and class projects.

Math 102 topics include functions, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, zeros of polynomials, conic sections, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, linear programming, and sequences and series.

The prerequisite for Math 102 is a passing score on, or an exception from, the ELM, or Credit in Math 093.

This section of Math 102 includes a Tutorial Workshop (recitation session) which the students are recommended to attend once a week. Quizzes will be given during these workshops.

Homework: You will submit it in **WeBWorK**. (Go to our course web page for the link.) **Late homework is not accepted** under any circumstances, but your lowest homework score will be dropped when computing your final grade.

Quizzes: There will be a short quiz (more or less weekly) during the Workshop meetings. There will be **no make-up quizzes**, but the lowest quiz score will be dropped from your grade.

Exams: There will be two midterms exams and a cumulative final exam on the following dates

- First Midterm: Monday, October 9
- Second Midterm: Wednesday, November 8
- Third Midterm, Monday, December 11
- Final Exam: Saturday, December 16, 9:00am—11:00 am

The **Final Exam** is **common** to all sections of Math 102.

Make-up Exams: There will be no make-up exams, except in cases of extreme emergencies or exceptional circumstances. You must notify me **before the exam** if you are going to miss it, and you must provide documentation supporting your request for a make-up. If the documentation is satisfactory, I **may** give the make-up. A make-up exam will consist of a written part and an oral part.

Calculators are not allowed on Quizzes, Midterm Exams, or on the Final Exam

Grades: Your total score (out of 100 points) will be determined as follows

- 10% Homework
- 15% Quizzes
- 15% Each of the 3 midterms
- 30% Final Exam

and your **final grade** will be determined as follows:

- A if total score is 90 points or more,
- B if total score is between 80 and 89 points,
- C if total score is between 70 and 79 points,
- D if total score is between 55 and 69 points,
- F if total score is below 55 points.

I will use +/- when assigning your final grade.

Tutoring: Help is available at several locations on Campus

- **Learning Resource Center Lab (BH 417).** Monday and Thursday: 9am—5pm; Tuesday and Wednesday: 9am—7pm; Friday: 9am—3pm.
- **Math Tutoring Lab (SH 274).** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 10:00 am –4:00 pm; (Mon or Wed 9:00am–10:00am, Tu or Th: 4:00pm—5:30pm;) Friday: 10:00am—12:00pm, Saturday: 11:00am—2:00pm.

Class philosophy: Learning algebra involves skill acquisition. It is analogous to the physical training involved in music and sports. Now matter how much you *understand* about playing a musical instrument or performing certain athletic feat, you will never be able to do either one without practice; it is simply impossible. Similarly, the only way to be successful in algebra is to devote consistent time to the practice of homework problems.