
Instructor: Dr. Yunrong Zhu

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Course Website: [MOODLE](#)

Office Hours: MW 9:00 am - 10:00 am, or by appointment

Textbook: *Precalculus*, by Miller and Gerken, 1st Edition (McGraw-Hill, 2016). The ebook is bundled with the required **ALEKS 360 subscription**. It is possible to purchase a hardcopy of the textbook for a nominal fee with the subscription. The ALEKS access code may be purchased either online or from the bookstore. We will cover some prerequisites, and most of Chapter 1-3.

ALEKS (Required): You should enroll in ALEKS right away for the online learning system. To get started, go to www.aleks.com and click on "SIGN UP NOW!". Enter the Class Key: **PXDLG-3NXMP** and set up your account login information. You will be prompted for your purchased Access Code to gain full access for the entire semester. (See the detailed instructions in pdf on [MOODLE](#).)

Prerequisites: Math 1108 with a C- or better, or demonstrated equivalent proficiency in Intermediate Algebra is required. Students are required to take ALEKS initial knowledge check at the beginning of this course, and then follow their own learning path on ALEKS.

Course Objectives: Help the students to develop a thorough understanding of college algebra and problem-solving skills. We are going to explore the concept of function and its graph (domain, range, composition of functions, inverse functions), and basic transformations of graphs. We will also study functions including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic and their graphs, with applications, as well as theory of polynomial functions and equations.

Calculator: Graphing calculator is required and will be allowed on exams. Any calculator that has a built-in Internet access, text, phone or Computer Algebra System (CAS) will NOT be allowed. Using such features during an exam amounts to cheating. The TI-83 is the departmental standard and is recommended. You are responsible for learning to use your calculator.

Homework: There will be NO written homework for this course. You are required to complete review topics in ALEKS and work on your path at least 5 hours each week.

Class and Quizzes: Class attendance is required for this course. **A student who earns a failing grade via course work (exams, homework, etc.) and has unexcused absences that total more than 30% of class meetings will receive a grade of "X".**

Throughout the semester, at least seven in class quizzes or worksheets will be given. The questions are based on the examples shown in class. Show your work for each problem. You must be present in the class to take the quizzes or worksheets, and **NO make-up** will be given for any reason. You can drop the lowest two scores.

Exams: There will be three in-class exams with the tentative schedule as follows:

Exam #1: Friday Sep. 23, On Chapter 1

Exam #2: Friday Oct. 28, On Chapter 2

Exam #3: Friday Dec. 2, On Chapter 3

Exams will be closed book with no notes allowed. You may use a graphing calculator.

A **Common Cumulative Final Exam** will be on **Monday, Dec. 12, 3:00pm - 5:00pm, Room: TBA**, which will be graded by all MATH 1143 instructors. You must take the final exam at the scheduled time. You may use one 3" × 5" handwritten notecard (front and back) for the final exam.

Makeup Exams: Students who have a valid documented reason, such as an unavoidable emergency, illness, or university commitments during regular examination times are permitted to schedule a makeup examination with no penalty. In such case, you must contact me or has somebody else contact me **before** the exam. To take the makeup exam, you must present the documentation for the emergency. Any missed exam will be 0.

Grading: : Students course grade will be based EXCLUSIVELY on your performance in ALEKS, quizzes (and in class worksheets), three in-class midterm exams, and the final exam. There will be NO “extra credit” work. The weights are distributed as follows:

30% ALEKS + 10% Quizzes + 30% Middle Term Exams + 30% Final.

You need a **C- or above** to use Math 143 as a prerequisite in another math class. The grade required to use Math 1143 in other departments varies. Check with appropriate departments for details. Final course grades scale is:

A+	93% and above	C	73%–76%
A-	90%–92%	C-	70%–72%
B+	87%–89%	D+	67%–69%
B	83%–86%	D	63%–66%
B-	80%–82%	D-	60%–62%
C+	77%–79%	F	59% and below

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at Idaho State University, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. All Idaho State University Policies regarding ethics and honorable behavior apply to this course (see <http://www2.isu.edu/policy/4000/index.shtml>).

Extra Help: Do not hesitate to come to my office during office hours or by appointment to discuss a homework problem or any aspect of the course. Free tutoring is available from the Math Center in the Student Success Center, Rendezvous 327 in Pocatello and CHE Room 220 in Idaho Falls. Information is available at <http://www.isu.edu/success/math/index.shtml>. The 1 credit ACAD 1103 (College Learning Strategies for Math) could provide additional help.

ADA Policy: Idaho State University is committed to providing equal opportunity in education for all students. If you have a diagnosed disability or if you believe you have a disability (physical, learning, hearing, vision, psychiatric) that might require reasonable accommodation in this course, please contact the Disability Services Center, Rendezvous Building, Room 125 (282-3599) <http://www.isu.edu/ada4isu>.