GS 29000 – Algebra and Trig I Study Skills

INSTRUCTOR: Maggie Selo
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        ENAD 242
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
GS 29000 – Algebra and Trig I Study Skills is a course designed to help students succeed in MA 15300* by teaching them to apply specific study skills to the course as well helping students overcome math anxiety. The goal of the course is to help students become effective judges of how they are doing in MA 15300 and to help them decide what study skills and relaxation techniques they should use to improve their performance. Assignments will give them the practice needed to become a skillful learner. They can then choose the ones that work best for them and modify them to fit their individual learning styles. Results will include greater confidence, less stress, and in most cases, improved grades.

*NOTE: Students cannot take GS 29000 unless they are enrolled in MA 15300. Students who drop MA 15300 must withdraw from GS 29000 – Algebra and Trig I Study Skills.

TEXT AND COURSE MATERIALS
Books listed below are available at both University and Follett's bookstores (unless otherwise noted.)
1. The textbook for MA 15300:
2. Winning at Math – Fifth Edition – Paul Nolting
3. Three ring binder

A calendar can be found on Blackbard. This calendar is subject to change; verbal changes made in class are the student's responsibility.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS
Students may expect the instructor to:
- Come to class prepared.
- Respect each student as an individual.
- Encourage each student to do his/her best.
- Provide a variety of activities that allows students to master the study skills.
- Grade homework and projects fairly in accordance with the guidelines and point values listed in the packet.
- Return graded assignments and projects in a timely fashion.

The instructor will expect the students to:
- Come to each class on time. (Please note in the attendance section the penalty for being late.)
- Come to class prepared with the assigned reading done.
- Turn in homework and projects when they are due. (Please note in the grading policy section the penalties for late work.)
- Participate in class discussions.
- Call or email if unable to come to class.

CELL PHONES, iPODS, and OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES
All electronic devices must be turned off before entering the classroom. Texting, twittering, and any other form of electronic communication are not allowed in the classroom. You will be asked to leave the classroom if you use any electronic devices during class. Cell phones may not be used as calculators; only the calculators allowed on math exams will be allowed for classroom use.
**GRADING POLICY**

In accordance with University policy, you are expected to attend every class meeting, both for MA 15300 and GS 29000. An assignment may be turned in late, but you will lose 10% of that assignment’s points from the grade. Assignments are always due at the next class period unless otherwise noted; this includes reading assignments. Makeups will not be allowed after two weeks past the due date except in extraordinary circumstances.

Your semester grade will be based on (see Grade Monitoring Sheet in packet for point values and grading scale):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam Projects</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam Reflections</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Conference, Inventories</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveys, Course Evaluation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance at all class meetings, for both MA 15300 and GS 29000, is extremely important. Much of our work will be done in class, and we will be using notes, etc. directly from that day’s math lesson. Also, this class is intended to be very interactive - your enthusiastic and prepared contribution to the discussion is essential.

Each day in GS 29000 is worth approximately ten attendance points, for a total of 250 points (25% of grade). **You may miss two classes with no points deducted.** Absences which are illness-related or university-related and are documented with a doctor or hospital note or an official university –issued letter will be counted as excused absences and will not lose points. Other absences may be excused at the discretion of the instructor.

If you are more than 5 minutes late to class, you will be marked late (L). Every three L’s will count as one absence.

**MAJOR CAMPUS EMERGENCIES**

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Here are ways to get information about changes in this course. Blackboard web page, my email address: mselo@purdue.edu, and my office phone: 765-494-3705.

**STUDENTS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS**

Please note the section on Academic Adjustments in the math syllabus.

**CONFERENCES**

There will be at least two individual conferences with the instructor.

- The first conference will be at the beginning of the course; at this meeting we will discuss your math learning profile, your history as a student, your weekly schedule, and your goals for this class. This conference is 2% of your final grade.
- At the end of the semester you will meet individually with the instructor to go over the final project and give and get final feedback. Pre- and post- Math Test Attitude/Anxiety Inventory and Math Study Skills Survey scores will also be discussed. This conference will be part of the final project grade.
- A mid-semester conference may be required of students who are making a C or lower in either MA 15300 or GS 29000.

**STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD**

Here’s an opportunity to become an integral part of the Purdue University community. Each spring the ASC will invite a few students to join the ASC Student Advisory Board. As a SAB member, you serve as an academic resource for your peers and as a consultant on ASC policies as they relate to students, faculty and staff. You will improve your leadership and communication skills. These skills are valuable when building your resume. See your instructor for further information or for an application at the end of the semester.