

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: MCR 6

Credits: 1

Course Title: Learning Support for Precalculus

Course Description: Provides instruction for students who require minimum preparation for college-level Precalculus. Students in this course will be co-enrolled in MTH 161. Credits are not applicable toward graduation and do not replace MTE courses waived. Successful completion of Precalculus I results in the prerequisite MTE modules being satisfied.

Prerequisites: Completion of any seven of the MTE modules 1-9. Co-requisite: MTH 161.
Lecture 1 hour per week.

General Course Purpose: To enable qualified students to enter into credit-bearing courses sooner, with the appropriate support, and with equal or better success than those students meeting course prerequisite requirements. The course provides support and enhancement of foundational and course content required of the credit course.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: Completion of any seven of the MTE modules 1-9. Co-requisite: MTH 161

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to meet the following objectives of MTH 161:

1. Demonstrate use of relations and functions
 - a. Distinguish between relations and functions
 - b. Evaluate functions both numerically and algebraically
 - c. Determine the domain and range of functions in general, including root and rational functions
 - d. Perform arithmetic operations on functions, including the composition of functions and the difference quotient
 - e. Identify and graph linear, absolute value, quadratic, cubic, and square root functions and their transformations
 - f. Determine and verify inverses of one-to-one functions

2. Demonstrate use of polynomial and rational functions
 - a. Determine the general and standard forms of quadratic functions
 - b. Use formula and completing the square methods to determine the standard form of a quadratic function
 - c. Identify intercepts, vertex, and orientation of the parabola and use these to graph quadratic functions
 - d. Identify zeros (real-valued roots) and complex roots, and determine end behavior of higher order polynomials and graph the polynomial, and graph
 - e. Determine if a function demonstrates even or odd symmetry
 - f. Use the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, Rational Root test, and Linear Factorization Theorem to factor polynomials and determine the zeros over the complex numbers
 - g. Identify intercepts, end behavior, and asymptotes of rational functions, and graph

- h. Solve polynomial and rational inequalities
 - i. Interpret the algebraic and graphical meaning of equality of functions [$f(x) = g(x)$] and inequality of functions [$f(x) > g(x)$]
 - j. Decompose partial fractions of the form $P(x)/Q(x)$ where $Q(x)$ is a product of linear factors
3. Demonstrate use of exponential and logarithmic functions
- a. Identify and graph exponential and logarithmic functions and their transformations
 - b. Use properties of logarithms to simplify and expand logarithmic expressions
 - c. Convert between exponential and logarithmic forms and demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the two forms
 - d. Solve exponential and logarithmic equations using one-to-one and inverse properties
 - e. Solve application problems involving exponential and logarithmic functions
4. Demonstrate use of systems of equations
- a. Solving three variable linear systems of equations using the Gaussian elimination method

Major Topics to Be Included:

- 1. Relations and Functions
- 2. Polynomial and Rational Functions
- 3. Exponential and Logarithmic Functions
- 4. Systems of Equations

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: August 3, 2017