BLC 190: Algebra, Trigonometry, and Functions	**Spring 2018**
RKC 101	**Tuesday 5–7pm**
Syllabus	

General Information

Instructor: Maria Belk (mbelk@bard.edu)

Office: Learning Commons, Stone Row basement

Office Hours: TBA

Webpage: http://math.bard.edu/mbelk/blc190/

Calculator: You will need either a basic scientific calculator or a graphing calculator.

Course Description

BLC 190 covers the material of a standard precalculus course, but at a faster pace. It is intended for students who have had a precalculus course in high school or at Bard, but would like more computational practice with algebra, trigonometry, logarithms, and exponentials. This course can be taken at the same time as a math, science or economics course, or in preparation to take such a course in a subsequent semester.

This course does NOT fulfill the math/computing distribution requirement.

Class Format

The class will be a mix of lecture and group work.

- In the first half of class, we will go over some important precalculus topics.
- The second half of class will be spent working in groups on a worksheet related to these topics. The worksheet will involve some basic computational problems, along with some more challenging problems (such as word problems).

Assignments and Grades

Your grade will be determined by worksheets, homework assignments, quizzes, and a final exam, according to the following table:

Worksheets	Homework	Quizzes	Final Exam
10%	15%	25%	50%

Worksheets: We will spend part of each class working in groups on worksheets. If you miss a class, you can download the worksheet from the course webpage and turn it in at the next class.

Homework: There will be weekly homework assignments posted to the course webpage.

Quizzes and Final Exam: We will have two in-class quizzes and a final exam, which will test the basic skills from class. Practice quizzes and a practice exam will be available beforehand. See the tentative schedule for the dates of the quizzes and final exam.

Pass/ Fail/ D: This course can only be taken Pass/Fail/D. Because the quizzes and final exam will test basic skills, **passing requires an overall grade of 70%** in the course. For students who are close to the 70% cut-off, there may be opportunities to re-take a quiz or exam.

Resources

- **Office Hours:** TBA

  My office hours exist so that I can help you better understand the material. Please use them! If you have questions, but cannot make the scheduled office hours, please send me an e-mail (mbelk@bard.edu), and we can arrange a time to meet.

- **Math Study Room:** Sunday through Thursday, 7pm–10pm in RKC 111

  The Math Study Room is staffed by undergraduate math majors who are available to answer your questions. You can go to the study room to work on your homework, and then ask for help when you get stuck.

Tentative Schedule

	Date	**Topic**
Week 1	Tues 1/30	Algebra Review
Week 2	Tues 2/6	Functions, Graphs, and Equations of Lines
Week 3	Tues 2/13	Exponents and Logarithms
Week 4	Tues 2/20	Triangle Trigonometry, **Quiz 1**
Week 5	Tues 2/27	Circle Trigonometry
Week 6	Tues 3/6	Exponents and Logarithms (Part 2)
Week 7	No Class	
Spring Break		
Week 8	Tues 3/27	Exponential Growth and Decay, **Quiz 2**
Week 9	Tues 4/3	Word Problems
Week 10	Tues 4/10	Review
Week 11	Tues 4/17	**Final Exam**

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Amy Shein (ashein@bard.edu) to determine if you may be eligible.