

MA 154 Spring 2009

11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m

Instructor: John LaMaster

Web Sites: John's Home Page: <http://www.ipfw.edu/math/lamaster>
This section's Home Page: <http://users.ipfw.edu/lamaster/ma153/s09ma154.htm>

Class Meetings: MWF: 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. KT G47

Office: Kettler 264

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. in KT 264
Tuesday 9:30-10:20 a.m.
Thursday 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Also by appointment or chance.

Reachable: 481-5430 (office/voice mail)
481-6821 (Math Dept)
481-6880 (FAX)
email: lamaster@ipfw.edu

Prerequisites: MA 153 with C or higher or placement by departmental exam. This course is primarily intended for students who have completed two years of high school algebra.

Objectives: This course serves both as a preparation to the calculus sequences and as a terminal course for students who need only this level of mathematics.

Content: This course presents the concepts of precalculus from four points of view: geometric (graphs), numeric (tables), symbolic (formulas), and written (verbal descriptions). The emphasis is on the mathematical modeling of real-life problems using linear, exponential, and trigonometric functions. Topics also include vectors, conic sections, and complex numbers. Students develop their reading, writing, and questioning skills in an interactive classroom setting.

Required: *Functions Modeling Change, 3rd Edition* by Connally, Hughes-Hallett, Gleason, et al.

An *eHW* access code for purchase in the Kettler bookstore. (It is available behind the counter)

You will be required to use a graphing calculator for activities and assignments in and out of class. The Graphing Calculators Web Page (<http://www.ipfw.edu/math/resources/calculators.shtml>) can help you obtain and use a grapher. The **TI-83 Plus** or **TI-84 Plus** (or Silver Editions of these) are the *tools of choice*.

Note: You can rent a TI-83 Plus for \$10 at Walb Student Union 225 (481-6586).

Optional: *Student's Study Guide* by Cannon
Graphing Calculator Guide for the TI-83/82 by Carl Swenson

