

Math 199 Algebra/Precalculus Gateway, Fall 2012

Basic Info:

Meeting Times/Locations

- Weekly Testing Location: Roop Hall 127, Fridays 5–8pm
- Weekly Help Session Locations: Burruss Hall 030, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 5–8pm

Note: Weekly help sessions are provided during the first 8 weeks of the course only (that is, until October 17).

Course Coordinators:

- Dr. Joshua Ducey, duceyje@jmu.edu
- Dr. Laura Taalman, taalmala@jmu.edu

Website: http://educ.jmu.edu/~taalmala/199_2012

Course Materials:

We will be using the online program *MyMathTest*. You will need an access code. Detailed instructions for obtaining an access code and registering for our course can be found below.

Objective of Course:

The primary purpose of this course is to help you master basic algebra and precalculus skills. We will be focusing on those skills that are most critical for success in the calculus course MATH 231. Information regarding who should be taking this course:

MATH 199E must be taken as a co-requisite with MATH 231 for students with calculus placement score in the range 15-22. Students with calculus placement score below 15 should take MATH 155 or 156 prior to attempting MATH 231. Permission from the Mathematics department to enroll in MATH 199E-MATH231 may be granted on an individual basis for calculus placement scores below 15 with appropriate evidence from other academic records. This course is only open to students enrolling in MATH 231 with placement score below 23.

Structure of Course:

The official time slot for this one-credit course is Fridays from 5–8pm in Roop 127. You should plan to be at the Friday session for at least one hour each week during the 5–8pm time slot, until you have completed the course. To complete the course you need to successfully pass five Gateway Tests:

1. Calculations and Applications
2. Functions and Graphs
3. Factoring and Simplifying
4. Equations and Inequalities
5. Exponential, Logarithmic, and Trigonometric Functions

Each test has 10 questions and you must get 8 of them completely correct to pass the test. You will take practice versions of these tests at home using the online program *MyMathTest*. Help on the material will be available to you at the Science and Mathematics Learning Center in Roop 200 as well as in two special *MyMathTests* help sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 5–8pm in Burruss 030 each week until October 17.

How To Get Help:

The Science and Math Learning Center is located on the second floor of Roop Hall and offers free tutoring. No appointment is needed. See <http://www.jmu.edu/smlc> for their hours and information about the satellite location in the Rose Library.

We also have dedicated peer tutors available on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, from 5:00-8:00pm, in Burruss Hall room 030. These tutors are available to help you with both math questions and also computer issues directly related to MyMathTest. NOTE: These tutors are only available for the first eight (8) weeks of the course (that is, until **Wednesday October 17th**).

The MyMathTest program also has built-in tools to help you study for these Qualifier and Gateway Tests. As you work on these tests, the MyMathTest program flags specific problems in your "Study Plan" that you should work on. By exploring the MyMathTest "Study Plan" you will find helpful video lectures that explain how to solve the problems within a particular section.

How Your Grade is Determined:

Your grade in Math 199 will be determined by the number of weeks that it takes you to pass all five Gateway Tests with scores of 8/10 or better in the proctored Friday evening sessions. You will be allowed to take a Gateway Test only if you have already passed the corresponding Qualifier Test with 8/10 or better on *MyMathTest*. Each Friday you will be allowed up to two attempts on each Gateway Test that you qualify for. You are strongly encouraged to pass all Gateway tests as soon as possible. Grades in the course will be assigned as follows:

A	pass all tests by 9/21	C	pass all tests by 11/2
A-	pass all tests by 9/28	C-	pass all tests by 11/9
B+	pass all tests by 10/5	C-	pass all tests by 11/16 (second chance!)
B	pass all tests by 10/12	-	(Thanksgiving - no tests on 11/23)
B-	pass all tests by 10/19	D	pass all tests by 11/30
C+	pass all tests by 10/26	F	tests not passed by 11/30

How to register for the course and online software:

In Math 199 we will be using the online program *MyMathTest*. You will need to **purchase an access code** and then **register for the online course**. If you are taking Math 199 for credit then you will also have to **register for Math 199** on your *MyMadison* account.

How to purchase an access code:

- Go to www.mymathtest.com. Click "Buy Now".
- Follow the instructions to create a Pearson account.
- When asked for your school zip code, type 22807, and then select JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY.
- The cost for the access code is 10 dollars, and is payable by credit card or PayPal. After payment, you will be provided with an access code that should look something like this: SIMPLE-FRILL-TONLE-WEIRS-CHOIR-FLEES.

How to register for the online course:

- Go to www.mymathtest.com. Click on "Register".
- Enter your username, password, and access code.
- Click "Log in now" and then enter MyMathTest.
- To join our course, enter the Program ID: XL0W-51UO-801Z-30W2.

General University Policy: www.jmu.edu/syllabus