WELCOME TO
PRECALCULUS HONORS at Miss Hall's School
2004–2005 Academic Year

INSTRUCTOR . . . .   Dr. Carol J. V. Fisher
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CLASS MEETING TIME . . . .   F block MTWF
CLASS MEETING PLACE . . .   Room 101, Main Building
INSTRUCTOR'S SCHEDULE . .   see below

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1st period 8:00–8:50	E AP Calculus	A Algebra I	G	D	B
2nd period 8:55–9:45	C HTML	D	A Algebra I	9:00–12:30 HORIZONS	A Algebra I
3rd period 9:50–10:20	School MTG	(HTML Lab)	AP Calc Lab		School MTG
4th period 10:25–11:15	B	C HTML	E AP Calculus		E AP Calculus
5th period 11:20–12:10	F Precalc H	G	F Precalc H	1:00–1:25 Adv Mtgs/ Class Mtgs	G
15 minute passing	lunch	lunch	lunch	lunch	lunch
6th period 12:25–1:15	G Office Hour (after lunch)	F Precalc H	C Office Hour (after lunch)	B 1:30–2:20	F Precalc H
7th period 1:20–2:10	D	E AP Calc	D	C 2:25–3:15 HTML	C HTML
8th period 2:15–3:05	A Algebra I	B	B	A 3:20–4:10	D
9th period 3:10–3:40					

COURSE DESCRIPTION and PREREQUISITES

Precalculus Honors is a 1-credit course covering topics in algebra and trigonometry, with an emphasis on functions. The course is designed to develop skills that are essential for success in Calculus. The Honors section will have many challenging homework problems, and a variety of derivations and proofs throughout the year. Completion of Algebra II and Geometry (or the equivalent), and permission from the Mathematics Department, are prerequisites for this course.

TEXTS and SUPPLIES

TEXTS:

Precalculus: Mathematics For Calculus, third edition, by James Stewart, Lothar Redlin, and Saleem Watson. We will cover parts of chapters 1, 8, and 9, and most of chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

We'll also cover **One Mathematical Cat, Please!** by Carol J.V. Fisher, which explores mathematical language issues. The book is available in spiral-bound form (PURPLE cover) at the MHS bookstore, and is also available on the web:

$$\texttt{http://fishcaro.crosswinds.net/cat\_book.htm}$$

TI-83 GRAPHING CALCULATOR

You need a TI-83 graphing calculator for class, homework, and exams. Calculator skills will be developed throughout the course.

3-RING BINDER and DIVIDER SHEETS

A 3-ring binder (at least $1.5''$ ring size) is strongly recommended to organize all class materials. Please make tabs for:

GRADE SHEET	SYLLABUS	INDEX CARDS	OTHER

INDEX CARDS

Index cards ($4'' \times 6''$, both sides un-ruled) are used to summarize important material. You may want to purchase a 3-hole punched plastic zippered pouch in which to keep your index cards.

SUPPLY LIST

☐ textbook: **Precalculus: Mathematics For Calculus**, third edition
☐ One Mathematical Cat, Please! (purple cover; optional; available on web)
☐ TI-83 graphing calculator
☐ 3-ring binder (recommend at least $1.5''$ ring size)
☐ index divider sheets
☐ $4'' \times 6''$ index cards, both sides un-ruled, at least 100
☐ 3-hole punched plastic zippered pouch (optional)

THE "INDEX CARD" LECTURE METHOD

All the important ideas in the course are summarized on index cards, which become a primary study source for exams and quizzes. Here's how the "index card method" works:

- You will receive copies of the index card material; the sheets are pre-punched to put in your 3-ring notebook. Typically, we'll cover one sheet (i.e., one index card) each day.

- Quickly read over the index card material before coming to class. This way, you have a preview of what we'll be talking about, making you more receptive to the ideas.

- After class, copy the material onto an *actual* index card. As you write the card, THINK! Make sure that you understand *everything* you're writing down. Feel free to add additional material to make the index cards more useful to you.

- Index cards are collected and graded at the midterm and endterm exams. Each card is worth 2 points (1 point for each side).

QUICK QUIZZES

At the beginning of each class, there is a 'Quick Quiz' over material from the previous day. This Quick Quiz may be:

- doing one of the assigned homework problems, or a similar problem

- answering a basic question from the previous day's index card(s)

The Quick Quizzes are graded with a '1' (one point) or an 'N' (<u>N</u>ot completely correct). Points accumulated on the Quick Quizzes are added into your point total as **BONUS POINTS**. Consequently, they can't hurt your grade, but can certainly help! There are no make-ups on Quick Quizzes. Quick Quizzes are discarded immediately after grading.

An unexcused late or unexcused absence causes you to lose a Quick Quiz point. (I record "−1" on the Quick Quiz sheet.)

QUIZZES and EXAMS

Almost every week there will be a 40-point quiz over the material covered since the previous quiz/test. These quizzes comprise a significant part of your course grade. Take them *very* seriously!

There will be a midterm and an endterm exam, each worth 80 points.

There will be quizzes over the CAT book, and over the web exercises.

PREREQUISITE QUIZ: The first weekly quiz (Monday, September 20) will cover the Sample Prerequisite problems.

LATE POLICY

Recall that there are no make-up Quick Quizzes. The Miss Hall's School late policy applies to any other missed work: "A student who has been absent must be prepared to submit all missed classwork within 48 hours of her return. A student should be prepared to take a quiz or test upon her return if the material was covered prior to her absence. A 10% per day grade reduction will be applied to any outstanding work after the 48 hour grace period."

EFFORT HONOR ROLL

A student is voted to the Effort Honor Roll when she has worked consistently throughout the term to be the best student she can be in all of her classes. Any one of the following reasons is sufficient to prevent a girl from receiving a recommendation for Effort Honor Roll: an unexcused absence; non-participation in class; lack of preparation for class; tardiness to class.

YOUR NUMBER IS . . .

Your Miss Hall's locker number is your number for the year. This number should be written on all tests and quizzes. Also, your personal folder is identified with this number. If you miss class, check your folder for papers that may have been distributed while you were absent.

GRADING

You will accumulate points throughout each term. Here's an example: if there are 994 possible points, and you accumulate 765 points, then your numerical term grade will be determined by computing $\frac{765}{994}$ and using normal rounding, yielding 77%. Each student is provided with a grade sheet which is used to keep track of your grade throughout the term. Here are some of the points for the Fall term:

graded item	approximate # of points
INDEX CARDS	50 cards $\cdot \frac{2 \text{ pts}}{\text{card}} = 100$ pts
WEEKLY QUIZZES	10 quizzes $\cdot \frac{40 \text{ pts}}{\text{quiz}} = 400$ pts
CAT QUIZZES	9 sections $\cdot \frac{10 \text{ pts}}{\text{section}} = 90$ pts
WEB QUIZZES	124 exercises $\cdot \frac{1 \text{ pt}}{\text{exercise}} = 124$ pts
MIDTERM EXAM	80 pts
ENDTERM EXAM	80 pts
FINAL EXAM	120 pts
QUICK QUIZZES	BONUS POINTS

Each term, the final exam grade may be used to replace a poor exam grade.

TERM GRADE:

		$A:$	$[93, \infty)$	$A^-:$	$[90, 93)$
$B^+:$	$[87, 90)$	$B:$	$[83, 87)$	$B^-:$	$[80, 83)$
$C^+:$	$[77, 80)$	$C:$	$[73, 77)$	$C^-:$	$[70, 73)$
$D^+:$	$[67, 70)$	$D:$	$[63, 67)$	$D^-:$	$[60, 63)$
$F:$	< 60				

QUIZ/EXAM DATES and FINAL EXAM DATES:

All quiz and exam dates are listed on your Grade Sheet.

COURSE GRADE: Your course grade will be the average of the Fall and Spring term grades.

Note: The semester average of students enrolled in Honors courses is weighted by one point. This weight can favorably influence a student's semester average, helping her earn recognition on the Head's List or Honor Roll at any point during her years at MHS.