SYLLABUS
MTH 163, sections 02 and 05
Plane Trigonometry
3 credit hours
Spring, 2008
Section 02:  LBD 403,  M W F 10 - 11
Section 05:  LBD 401,  M W F 12 - 1

Instructor: Dr. Charles D. Luning
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Office Hours: MWF 9 -10, 11-12, T - Th 9:30 -11

Course Description:  Topics include coordinate systems, circular functions, solutions of triangles, identities, trigonometric equations and inverse functions. Applications of the mathematics to "real-world" problems is emphasized. The class is primarily a lecture class. Material will be taken from Chapters 1 through 7 of the text. Not all sections will be covered. Homework problems will be assigned. These are neither collected nor graded. These should be considered to be the minimum number of problems a student should work. Many students may need to work more problems in order to master the material.

Prerequisites:  Two years of high school algebra and one year of high school geometry.

Course Objective:  The successful student will acquire an understanding of the trigonometric functions and the mathematical skills necessary to analyze and solve certain types of applied problems.


Calculator: A calculator with the trigonometric functions is necessary for the course. There are many such calculators available. I use a TI 84+. If you have questions about the appropriateness of your calculator, please feel free to ask me about it.

Exams:  We will have 5 tests and the final, each of which will have a value of 100 points. The tests will primarily be problems similar to homework problems or examples I have worked in class. However, you will also be responsible for definitions, theorems, formulas and identities as developed in the book and class. It is not anticipated that there will be extra-credit work. If you miss an exam due to doctor's excused illness or officially approved university activity, you are entitled to take a make-up exam. If you miss an exam for any other reason, it is at the discretion of the instructor as to whether you may take a make-up exam. In either case, you must be prepared to take the make-up when you return to class. When you take the make-up will be determined by the instructor.
Grading: It takes 60% of the possible points to get a D, 70% for a C, 80% for a B and 90% for an A. No test grades are dropped. All of the test grades will be used in calculating the grade. I reserve the right to lower the grading scale at the end of the semester, if I deem it appropriate.

Attendance: Attendance will be taken every class period. In order to facilitate the taking of attendance, a seating chart will be developed. If you come to class late, it is up to you to visit with the instructor immediately after class to see if you can be counted present. There is no such thing as an excused absence. If you are not in class, you will be counted absent.

Classroom Decorum: You are expected to behave in a polite and courteous manner at all times in the classroom. Cellular phones and other chiming devices must be turned off before class begins. Under no circumstances are cell phones or other electronic communication devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Any such use will result in your examination being immediately collected and you will receive a grade of zero on the exam. You are prohibited from using any tobacco products in class, making offensive remarks, reading newspapers or other material not pertinent to the class, sleeping, talking at inappropriate times or engaging in any other form of distraction. Unless other arrangements have been made, you will remain in class until the class is dismissed. Inappropriate behavior in class, may result in a directive to leave class and you will be counted absent. Especially disruptive behavior may be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action in accordance with university policy.

Academic Dishonesty: You are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. You are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.

Visitors in the Classroom: It is at the instructor's discretion whether or not a visitor will be allowed in the classroom. In any case, the visitor must not present a disruption to the class by his/her attendance.

Disabled Student Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect the academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.

Religious Holidays: Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. See Student Syllabus Guidelines.

Student Syllabus Guidelines: A link to Student Syllabus Guidelines can be found
at http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/ Here you will find specific university policy or procedure as referred to in some of the above policies.

Miscellaneous: It may be deemed that the structure of the course may need to be adjusted in order to provide a better learning experience or more fairly evaluate the students. Thus I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus as I see fit. All such changes will be announced in class.

Testing Schedule: Tests will be given when the appropriate material has been covered. I will announce in class, usually at least one week prior to the test, the date the next test will occur. The testing schedule will be:

Chapter 1, Test 1
Chapter 2, Test 2
Chapter 3, Test 3
Sec 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6, Test 4
Chapter 5, Test 5
Sec. 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, Final