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PREFACE

Precalculus: Term 1, A Book of Lesson Plans was written to help teachers of Precalculus. Using the new technologies is a stark reality at this point in time for many teachers. Learning a graphing calculator is one thing; however, using it to motivate instruction is quite another. Many of these lessons routinely incorporate graphing calculators so that a teacher can learn the calculator's many functions as they are teaching the course, some for the first time.

These lessons take a constructivist approach to precalculus. Each lesson is designed to help students internalize new ideas from activities that introduce and motivate. There is ample opportunity to allow students to work in cooperative groups should the teacher decide to use this approach. Medial summaries and follow up problems are also provided. Each lesson includes a list of materials and the behavioral objective outcomes. It also includes some pages for making overhead transparencies or class sets of certain ideas.

We felt that mathematics should be taught in context, that technology is essential to teaching today and that critical thinking and in depth understanding of the material makes stronger students. These lessons reflect the changing standards in mathematics education. They make for a more continuous bridge from Math B to Advanced Placement Calculus.

Lessons can fit into either one or two 40-minute periods. The teacher using this guide can decide that certain lessons may be either modified to meet their own needs or entirely omitted. The textbook that was used as a basis for these plans is "Advanced Mathematics: Precalculus with Discrete Mathematics and Data Analysis by Richard Brown, published by McDougal Littell – Houghton Mifflin © 1997.

Please send comments, suggestions, or corrections to: Paul Cinco, Assistant Principal, Supervision, Flushing High School, 35-01 Union Street, Flushing, New York 11355 or e-mail them to commonlog@aol.com