

## Math 1090 ~ Business Algebra

Section 3.4 Polynomial Functions

Objectives:

- Determine the degree of a polynomial function and find the coefficients, the leading coefficient and the constant.
- Write a polynomial function in descending order.
- Sketch a variety of general polynomial functions, even and odd.
- Find the zeros or roots of a polynomial function.

Polynomial Function
$f(x)=a_{n} x^{n}+a_{n-1} x^{n-1}+\ldots+a_{2} x^{2}+a_{1} x+a_{0}$

## Example

$f(x)=8 x^{4}-2 x^{3}+3 x-1$

Degree

## Coefficients

> Leading coefficient

Constant

Graphs
$n=1 \quad n=2 \quad n=3 \quad n=4$

Ex 1: For these polynomials, write in standard form. State the degree, leading coefficient and show the general shape of each.
a) $f(x)=4 x-12-2 x^{3}-x^{2}$
b) $f(x)=3 x^{7}-14 x+3 x^{2}-4 x^{4}-5$

Ex 2: For these polynomials, answer the following.
a) Degree
b) zeros
c) $y$-intercept
d) $x$-intercept
e) sketch the graph
A) $f(x)=x^{4}-8 x^{2}+16$
B) $g(x)=2 x^{3}-2 x^{2}-4 x$



Ex 3: For these piecewise functions, fill in the points and sketch the graph.
a) $f(x)=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}4 & x \geq 3 \\ |x| & -3 \leq x<3 \\ -1 & x<-3\end{array}\right.$

| $x$ | -4 | -3 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $y$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |


b) $g(x)=\left\{\begin{array}{cc}x+5 & x \geq 1 \\ -2 x+8 & x<1\end{array}\right.$



