

MATH 142.004—PRECALCULUS

TR: 8:00am – 9:50am

Fall 2013

Instructor: Joshua Patterson

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Text: PRECALCULUS, 6th Edition, by Redlin, Stewart and Watson. Parts or all of the following chapters will be covered: 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11. We may occasionally cover enrichment activities not in the text.

Course Description: Trigonometric functions and their graphs; radian measurement; solution of triangles; identities; logarithmic and exponential functions; trigonometric equations; applications of trigonometry; conic sections and their graphs. Prerequisite: High school geometry and two years of high school algebra or Math 1314.

Student Learning Outcomes: A student who passes this course will demonstrate through solving problems the ability to apply trigonometry to physical situations and theoretical problems. The student will have demonstrated problem solving ability that includes, but is not limited to, functions, identities, and graphical information. The student will be eligible to enroll in Calculus I.

Tests: There will be three tests. Each test will be announced at least one week prior to the time it is given. Be careful to invest ample time daily in the course so that you will be prepared for each examination. Tests will count approximately 60% of your final grade.

Homework and Supplemental Instruction: Homework will be assigned almost every day. It is expected that you try to solve all assigned problems. Homework is important since you can expect the tests to contain problems similar to those assigned as homework. You should always allow a reasonable amount of time to do each assignment. Save your papers to use when studying for tests. Selected problems will be collected and graded on some days. Occasionally, a short quiz may be given in class. The quiz will usually cover the assignment for that day.

A Supplemental Instruction (SI) session will be held once per week. The purpose of the session is to make extra help available to you in learning the material. During these sessions, an assistant will do examples and exercises and provide guided help. The assistant will also do some review before a test. The time and place of the SI sessions will be announced later. At this point, the SI sessions are not required, but you are strongly encouraged to attend.

The homework, quizzes and SI activities will count approximately 7% of your final grade.

Make-up work: No late tests will be given. If you miss a test, the final will be used to replace that score. No late homework will be graded and daily quizzes will not be repeated if missed. However, a percentage of the homework and quiz grades will be dropped to cover days when an absence is unavoidable.

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: Below 60

Office Hours: My office is Binnion-303. If you need to see me, do not hesitate to schedule an appointment. If you are having difficulty in the course, please seek help early. I would be glad to help you any time I am available. I will plan to be in my office at the following times:

MWF: 11 – 2pm

TR: 9:30 – 11:00am

Others, by appointment.

Occasionally, I will be out of my office for meetings or other obligations during scheduled office hours. I will try to let you know of these times early or will leave a note of explanation. Otherwise, you are welcome in my office.

Attendance: It is expected that you will be regular and punctual in attendance. Attendance will be noted daily and counts as 8% of your final grade.

Course Calendar:

Test 1 – September 24.

Test 2 – October 22.

Test 3 – November 19.

Final: The final exam will be given on Tuesday, December 10th, 2013 as follows.**142.004: 8:00am – 10:00am**

The final exam will count as 25% of your final grade.

Dropping the Course: It is my hope that no one will want to drop this course. Please keep in mind that the total number of courses dropped for academic reasons during undergraduate studies is limited to six. The last day to drop the course is Thursday, October 31st.

Services: Tutoring services up to the level of Calculus I are provided by the Math Skills Center (Binnion 328) with the following hours.

Monday and Wednesday: 8:00 am. - 8:00 pm.

Tuesday and Thursday: 8:00 am. - 6:00 pm.

Friday: 8:00 am. - 3:00 pm.

Most students in Math 142 find it helpful to use a graphing calculator. The Mathematics Department has a Calculator Loan Program that allows you to borrow a TI-83/84 for a semester fee of \$10.

Basic tenets of common decency: All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct) This means that rude and/or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Please make certain that any cell phone in your possession never rings in class and is never used during class; do not leave class early unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor; do not excuse yourself from class and then return. Failure to comply with these policies can result in a lowering of your grade or expulsion from the course.

Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library, Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Comment: I will do my best to present the course in an understandable manner. My expectation is that you will do your best to learn all that the course offers. Combined, our efforts can form a significant part of your education.