

Math 153 Fall 2008

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Course Summary

Precalculus I is a course that helps prepare students to take Calculus and Calculus-based science courses. Tests and homework assignments reflect the ability of students to handle rigorous assessments at the university level.

Basic course goals include:

- Analyzing functions and equations numerically, algebraically, and graphically
- Modeling real-world problems with appropriate functions
- Understanding the transformation of functions and connection between functions.
- Using technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results and verify conclusions.
- Determining the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement.
- Appreciating that the procedure for solving a problem is as important as the answer, and that a variety of procedures can be used to solve most problems.
- Communicating knowledge in both everyday and mathematical language.

Necessities

1. Come to class. Math, like foreign languages requires a daily commitment to become successful.
2. The required text is Precalculus A Problems-Orientated Approach 6th Edition, by David Cohn
3. You should also have a graphing calculator. (I will be using a TI-83), a ruler, a journal, and graph paper.
4. Get yourself the help you need. I am more than happy to help you as much as possible. Beyond that, form study groups or get a study partner, and take advantage of the math center here on campus.
5. Participate in class discussions. The best learning takes place when students ask questions.

Special points of interest:

- Daily homework is assigned but not collected.
- All quizzes will be announced, worth 20 points, and cover assigned homework problems. Daily homework may be used during these quizzes.
- A handwritten 3 x 5 note card may be used on tests.
- We will have 3 100-point exams and a final worth 150 points. All tests are cumulative.
- The first 3 tests may be retaken outside of class time by arranging time with the instructor.
- Dates for exams and quizzes will be announced in class.
- Group homework assignments will be collected and worth approximately 100 total points.
- One or more projects will be worth about 50 points each.
- Grades are based on total point percentages, calculated to the nearest whole number.
- A=93%, B=83%, C=73%, D=63%
- A minus grade would be (-3%) and a plus grade would be (+4%)

Suggested Homework Problems:

Section	Exercises and Problems
1.3	10, 11, 15, 17, 20, 23-31 odd, 35, 37, 42, 43, 48-54, 65-68, 69-73 odd
1.5	15, 16, 21-24, 31, 33, 41, 43
1.6	7, 8, 15, 17, 19, 23, 31, 33, 35, 41
1.7	7-21 odd, 25, 27, 31, 39-47 odd, 53, 55
2.1	41, 42, 43, 45, 47
2.2	1, 7, 12, 13, 15-57 odd, 61-71 odd
2.3	1-9 odd, 13, 14, 42
2.4	1, 3, 5, 9-29 odd, 43-59 odd, 77, 78
3.1	1, 4, 6, 16, 21, 23, 25, 29, 32, 27, 38, 55
3.2	6, 7-15, 17, 20, 23-31 odd
3.3	3-7 odd, 9-15 odd, 19, 21-24, 25-31, 37-40, 45, 46
3.4	1, 25-39 odd, 41-47 odd, 48, 62 a-d
3.5	1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 12, 14, 17, 23, 25-28, 29, 30
3.6	4, 7, 8, 11, 17, 19, 29-31
4.1	11, 21, 29, 31, 33
4.2	1, 2, 5-19 odd, 37, 39, 47, 49, 57, 59, 65
4.4	1-4, 6, 12, 14-16, 19, 22, 34, 41, 44, 45
4.5	5, 8, 10-12, 16, 17, 35, 47, 48
4.6	5, 9, 17-19, 47, 49, 60, 62
4.7	1-8, 35, 37-39, 41, 44, 45
5.1	3-15 odd, 25-31 odd, 39-42, 45
5.2	11-19 odd, 31, 35-42
5.3	3, 10, 11, 15, 17, 19-21, 31, 32, 53-60
5.4	1-23 odd, 43-48, 51-56, 63
5.5	1-41 odd, 45-49 odd, 71, 75, 77
5.7	7, 8, 11