

MATH 153 Pre-Calculus Mathematics I

Spring Quarter 2011

Daily, 12-12:50 pm, Hertz 119

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Office Hours: MWTh @ 10 am (and by appt)

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Course Information...

Textbook—The required text for this course is *Precalculus: A Problems-Oriented Approach* (6th Edition) by David Cohen. We will cover chapters 1-5.

Required Materials—You will need a graphing calculator for this course (all instruction will be based on the TI-83/84+). You may also find it helpful to have a pad of graph paper.

Course Description & Goals—A foundation course which stresses those algebraic and elementary function concepts together with the manipulative skills essential to the study of calculus. A successful student will be able to explain and solve problems involving linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions.

Course Conduct—It is expected that you will attend class daily. Learning the skills and concepts required to be successful in this class won't happen without regular effort on the part of the student. You are responsible for any material covered in class in addition to the material in the textbook. It is your responsibility to stay informed—if you miss class, ask your fellow students for notes, check the website for course details, and/or talk to me. Cell phones should be turned off during class (unless you'd like to favor us with a song) and electronic music devices should not be used. ***It is also expected that your presence will contribute to and never distract from the learning of others in the class.***

Grading...

You may expect homework on a daily basis. These problems are intended to give you practice using the skills and concepts you've learned in class—practice is essential to success in a math class! Though I won't grade this work, it will prepare you for other assignments. Stay on track and ask questions!

Quizzes 25%

You can expect a quiz on most Fridays. Other quizzes may be given at random to encourage attendance and participation. The intent of the quizzes is to motivate you to stay involved in the class, provide more frequent feedback on your progress with the material covered, and prepare you for the exams. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped so ***no make-ups will be allowed.***

Exams 50%

There will be 3 in-class exams covering the material from the previous section. Exams will be similar in format to the quizzes. Dates will be announced in advance. You must be present on exam days—make-up exams will only be given when sufficiently warranted (and entirely at the discretion of the instructor).

Final Exam 25%

The final exam is comprehensive and will be similar in format to the previous exams. No early finals will be given.

Your grade in this class will be determined on the following scale:

93-100% A	87-89% B +	77-79% C +	67-69% D +	Below 60% F
90-92% A -	83-86% B	73-76% C	63-66% D	
	80-82% B -	70-72% C -	60-62% D -	

Important Dates

- Uncontested Withdrawal Deadline, May 13
- Memorial Day Holiday, May 30 (NO CLASS)
- Final Exam, Tuesday, June 7 @ 12 pm

Policy for Late Work

As a general rule, I do not accept late work. If there are extenuating circumstances, please let me know and I will consider the merit of your plea. Due dates will be announced in advance so any foreseeable problems should be brought to my attention **before** the assignment is due.

If you are under the weather, please use discretion regarding attendance. If you feel it will benefit you and your fellow students to stay home, please notify me regarding your absence. Accommodations will be made where feasible and appropriate for any missed work.

Please Note

Math is not a spectator sport. Watching me or classmates solve problems is not a substitute for making the effort to participate in class and complete homework assignments.

There are times when it is proper to get help from others and times when it is not. Feel free to ask others for help on homework and group or take-home assignments. During tests or individual quizzes, you must do your own work. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.

I make every effort to ensure a positive learning environment for each student but it is your responsibility to take action if you are struggling in this class. We have a drop-in lab on campus which provides free assistance if you need extra help with concepts or assignments. I welcome questions and feedback from students—make use of my posted office hours and/or contact me for an appointment. If the situation warrants, you are also encouraged to speak to the chair of the math department, Aaron Montgomery. Be proactive.

Students who have “Confirmation of Eligibility for Academic Adjustments” from the Disability Support Services Office and wish to have adjustments in this course should provide me with a copy of the form and discuss their needs with me. Students with disabilities without this form may contact the Disability Support Services Office, Bouillon 205, dssrecept@cwu.edu, or 963-2171.