

Math 153 PreCalculus I

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Office: Black Hall 225-32

Office Hours: By appointment or from
10:00am-10:50am M-F.

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Course Description

- It is expected that you have basic algebra skills; knowledge of linear and quadratic functions; radical, rational and exponential functions; and general graphing techniques.
- Math 153 is a 5-credit course designed to develop both the concepts and the procedural skills in advanced algebra that will prepare you for the study of Calculus. There will be problem solving, analysis, and communication required in addition to algebraic, graphical, and numerical approaches to the mathematics we study.
- Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to demonstrate understanding of the following topics: functions, including operations, compositions, and graphs; and specific features and applications of linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions.

Required Course Materials

- Text: *Precalculus*, Ninth Edition, by Michael Sullivan
- Graphing Calculator: recommended model is TI-83/84. If you have another model, that's fine. You may not use a phone app as your graphing calculator.
- Paper for taking notes, graph paper is helpful for when we graph
- Pencils. **I won't accept anything done with pen!**

Grading

Grades will be determined by the following weights:

Participation/In Class Handouts 10% Quizzes 25%

Exams 65% First Exam 15%, Second Exam 15%, Third Exam 15%, Final Exam 20%

Grades will be determined by the following scale (if .5 difference, I will round up):

93-100% = A	90-93% = A-	87-90% = B +	83-87% = B	80-83% = B -	77-80% = C +
73-77% = C	70-73% = C -	67-70% = D +	63-67% = D	60-63% = D -	Below 60%=F

Grade Updates

I will update grades after each exam. These grades can be found in a spreadsheet under the "Grades" tab on Canvas.

Participation/In Class Handouts

Attendance will not be graded. However, I highly recommend attending class. If you miss class it is your responsibility to get notes and find out what was covered or handed out in class.

We will do several in class handouts during the quarter. Completion and/or participation in these handouts will be recorded under the participation grade. If you miss class on a handout day, you will not receive points for that handout unless you have an exceptional reason or have made prior communication about missing class. In either of those cases, you must still complete the handout. Keep in mind that not doing handouts during class or leaving as soon as they are given will result in point loss.

Please note- exceptional reasons include a significant family/personal emergency, medical issues (with a Dr.'s note or prior notice), or sports/military obligations.

Also note- sleeping, checking Facebook, leaving, texting, and working on other assignments do not entail participating on handout days. Thus, point deduction will result in any of those events.

Quizzes

Quizzes will account for 25% of your grade. Typically, they will be open homework quizzes, however we may have take home quizzes as well. Homework quizzes will be taken every Friday unless it is an exam week. Homework quizzes cover content from the previous Friday through the Wednesday before the quiz.

Exams

There will be three exams given in this course (not including the final). Each exam will be worth 15% of your grade. Please study for the exams before they come. You will always get a list of what topics can be expected on the exams and I will give a study day in class before exams where I take any questions you have.

Therefore, be sure to ask questions then (or come to my office more than a half an hour before office hours end on the day of the exam.)

Final Exam

The final exam will be cumulative and is worth 20% of your grade. You will receive a list of topics to expect on this exam and I will give you at least 1 class "study period". Finals will be given during finals week, on the scheduled exam day, at the scheduled time. **Please do not make plans to leave on vacation, etc. and expect to take the exam early, it will not happen unless there is a very extreme circumstance.**

Make-up Exams

Will not be allowed unless there is a valid reason (i.e. emergency room trip, work/athletic/military requirements, family death, etc.). With medical emergencies there must be a Dr.'s note. With work/athletic/military I will need a note and contact info for your boss/coach/commanding officer. If there is a valid reason you missed, you must notify me of this reason within a day of the missed exam. If you know you are going to miss the exam early on (again, for a valid reason), let me know so we can set up a time for you to take it early.

Make up Quiz

You may have one free make up quiz, no questions asked. I will give you an extra 2 days to complete it. After that make-ups will follow the same guidelines as listed above for exams.

Class Notes

It is necessary to take notes in class. If you need help during office hours, I am always happy to help.

However, you must bring your class notes with you and/or show that you have put an acceptable amount of effort toward the content you are having trouble with.

Extra Credit

In general I do not give extra credit. However, if I do, it will be offered to the entire class. Please do not request exceptions on an individual basis.

Cheating

Is not allowed and will result in a failing grade. Cheating more than once will result in a report to Student Services.

Support Services

Students who have special needs or disabilities that may affect their ability to access information and/or material presented in this course are encouraged to contact the office of Disability Support Services on campus (963-2171). Also, please let me know if you need me to accommodate for a disability in anyway, I am glad to do so!

Important Dates:

January 19: No School, MLK Day

January 28: No School, Faculty Development Day

February 16: No School, President's Day

February 20: Last day to withdraw

March 16-19: Finals Week

I reserve the right to change the policies contained in this syllabus as dictated by developments during the quarter.