Precalculus - Math 153 (5 credits) – **Winter 2019**

Instructor: Dr. Brent Hancock
Office Location: Samuelson 218E **Email:** brent.hancock@cwu.edu
Class times: Class MTWRF 9:00-9:50am, Samuelson 128
Office hours: MTWRF 10:00-10:50 am, or by appointment (send me an email to set up a time)

- Office hour visits: Plan ahead and bring your prior work so I can best assist you ☺

What you will need:

- *Textbook: Precalculus* by Sullivan (CWU custom edition 2), ISBN: 9781323231531
  - *Access Code for MyMathLab (online HW)*
- Some kind of graphing calculator (TI-83, 84, or similar)
- Access to Canvas online at http://canvas.cwu.edu (this is where I will post course handouts, grades, policies, announcements etc. so it is important that you log on regularly).

Course Description:
By the end of this course, you will develop the foundational mathematical skills that will prepare you for calculus. The course will focus on the concepts and procedures related to various elementary functions such as linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions. We will engage with these functions using multiple representations such as algebraic formulas, numerical tables of values, graphs, and verbal descriptions. We will also incorporate technology such as graphing calculators and the Desmos application/website to visualize and manipulate function properties.

Where else you can get help:

- University Math Center (Brooks Library 190; see http://www.cwu.edu/learning-commons/university-math-center)
- Yourself (extra examples, read the book, watch online videos, etc.)
- Each other (study groups, etc.)

What you need to do to succeed in this class:

- Participate in class
- Form study groups and work together
  - … but submit your own work
- Do the homework and take it seriously
- Start assignments early
- Come to office hours
- Work on any suggested practice problems
- Read the corresponding sections in the textbook as we progress through each chapter
- Contact me *right away* if a problem arises
- Don't be afraid to initially get things wrong. Work hard to overcome obstacles

What the course assessments look like at a glance (more details on the next page):

- Several online assignments per week on MyMathLab
- Weekly homework quizzes (on most Fridays at beginning of class)
- 3 "chapter" exams and a comprehensive final exam
  Final Exam: Tuesday March 12 from 8:00-10:00 am. All students must take the final exam at the scheduled time and date.

Important policies:

- No late work is accepted without *prior arrangements* made with me due to extenuating circumstances.
- Don't cheat, and don't plagiarize. Respect the CWU Student Conduct Code (http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=106-125)
- I follow CWU's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct.

COURSE ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Online homework:

So that you can practice the essential skills and procedures in the course, we'll use the online system MyMathLab (**accessed through our Canvas course**) to submit and assess homework. There are several benefits to using this online homework system, including:

- You will obtain immediate feedback on your submitted answers, as opposed to waiting days after submitting a traditional pencil-and-paper assignment
- You will be granted multiple opportunities on each problem to correct various mathematical errors you might make before the submission deadline. On problems with multiple parts, you can get partial credit if you only get part of a problem right.

There will be multiple online homework sets assigned each week. These problems are mostly computerized versions of problems from the book.

Homework Quizzes:

Once per week, there will be a short 10-minute quiz at the beginning of class. These quizzes will very closely resemble select problems from the MyMathLab assignments you have already submitted that week. These "homework quizzes" will take place on **Fridays at the very beginning of class**, unless I announce otherwise in advance. The purpose of these quizzes is to allow you to:

- practice precalculus skills from the homework in a low-stakes, in-class "testing" environment
- demonstrate your problem-solving *process* so I can give you feedback on more than your final answer

Chapter Tests and Final Exam:

We will have three chapter tests in this class. Tentative exam dates will be provided on Canvas. We will also have a cumulative final exam covering all the material from this course. You should bring your own graphing calculator to each exam, and please note that *you will not be allowed to use your cell phone as a calculator* during exams.

Participation:

You are expected to actively participate during class in a variety of ways. For example, you are expected to contribute meaningfully to small-group discussions, ask questions, present solutions, and share your ideas and questions during whole-class discussions.

****Important Note about Exams and Quizzes**

Please note that there will be no makeup exams or quizzes. Exceptions will only be granted if you miss an exam due to a *verifiable and documented* medical emergency or other university-authorized absence (eg. official CWU sports team obligation, participation in religious observance etc.) and have given me *appropriate advance notice*. Please consult the University student handbook for details on what is considered to be a University-authorized absence, and provide me with a written request ASAP (i.e. before the drop deadline) if you think you will have a conflict with any test dates.

COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

Weight	**Assessment category (grading scale)**
20%	Online HW
15%	HW Quizzes
45%	Chapter Tests (3)
15%	Final Exam
5%	Attendance and Participation

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A- 90.0 - 92.9%	A 93.0 - 100%	
B- 80.0 - 82.9%	B 83.0 - 86.9%	B+ 87.0-89.9 %
C- 70.0 - 72.9%	C 73.0 – 76.9%	C+ 77.0 - 79.9%
D 60.0 - 69.9%		
F 0 - 59.9%		

Accommodations for students with disabilities:
Students who need accommodation of their disabilities should contact me privately to discuss specific accommodations for which they have received authorization. If you need accommodation due to a disability, please register with Disability Support Services in Hogue 126. They may also be reached via email at (DS@cwu.edu).

Respect, inclusivity, and diversity:
In my classroom, diversity and individual differences are respected, appreciated, and recognized as a source of strength. Students in this class are encouraged and expected to speak up and participate during class meetings, **and** to carefully and respectfully listen to each other. So that everyone feels comfortable participating, every member of this class **must** show respect for every other member of this class. Be good to each other.

Cell phone policy:
I will not allow cell phones or similar devices to be used during exams. This includes using your phone as a calculator. During exams, please keep all phones out of sight and silent. If I see anyone using a cell phone during an exam, I may assign that student a zero on that exam.

Changes to the syllabus:
I reserve the right to make modifications to this syllabus at any time. In the event of such changes, I will notify the class and upload a revised syllabus on Canvas.