Math 153.004: Pre-Calculus I

Meeting Daily at 11:00 – 11:50 in Samuelson 252

Instructor: Tim Brown
Phone: 509-963-1720
Email: brownti@cwu.edu – *preferred*

Office: Samuelson 218A
Office Hours: 3-4 PM Daily *(and by arrangement.)*

Description: 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 patterns we study. You need to <u>already have</u> a proficiency in a range of math skills, including linear and quadratic functions, which will be built upon during the course. When you finish, you will have proficiency with functions in general, including operations, compositions, and graphs. You also will have mastery of the specific features and applications of linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions.

Time: The general rule of thumb for college is 2 hours outside of class for each hour in class. Expect to spend 5 - 10 hours per week besides class time to be successful (some may need more, some less….) You <u>choose</u> to succeed or not largely by how you <u>choose</u> to spend time and energy. You will be receiving a schedule template to help you plan for success – you will need to block out 15 – 30 hours in your weekly routine for homework if you are a full time student (5 – 10 hours for this class).

Attendance, participation, homework. People who consistently show up, do their work, and get help as needed generally pass my classes. Be here, pay attention, <u>ask questions</u>, do your work, get help when you need it, and you will succeed. If you must be gone, you are responsible to access my canvas website for information, and keep up with the work. <u>Absences hurt your grade</u> in several ways:

- You miss your best opportunity to learn the material and/or ask questions
- You will miss in-class activities, which you may not be able to make up
- You may waste a quiz retake opportunity
- You will miss getting your perfect practices checked in a timely manner – and be unsure what the expectations are in terms of showing work, labelling, etc.

Expectations:

Uni-tasking! The (lost) art of doing one thing at a time, focusing, and doing it well. Turn off your phones, ipods, ipads, cortical implants, etc. during class… She will still love you in 50 minutes. The candy will still need to be crushed. Some people will still call him Maurice. Your friends will still have "words" with you ☺. If you are here, be truly here.

Respect yourself: Believe your education is important enough to put forth the effort. Your future is worth investing in.

Respect others (real or simulated respect) – me, classmates, the school, etc. . In order to create and sustain a safe and inclusive environment for learning, we have a shared responsibility to treat each other with dignity and respect. Mutual respect and nondiscrimination includes freedom from sexual harassment. Honesty is also absolutely essential.

Materials:

- A graphing calculator is required. Smart phone apps will <u>not</u> do, as you can't use a phone during quizzes and tests (for what I hope are obvious reasons). A TI-83 Plus or TI-84 plus is recommended, as I can help with those, but other calculators are acceptable if you read your own manual.
- Text: <u>Pre Calculus</u> by Sullivan, bundled with a "My Math Lab" license. You will be doing homework online, so make sure you have adequate online access. The physical text is only for reference this quarter, so it's optional, but may be required for Math 154 if you go on.

Homework is assigned almost every day, and needs to be done that day. Attendance and participation are essential, and practicing the skills and concepts promptly is the only way to be confident of success. This will be done mostly through mymathlab.com. There will also be paper assignments, with specified due dates.

Perfect Practices are tasks which you do as part of the lesson, and which must be completely perfect to get credit. You keep working until you get these right, at which point they get a stamp. Perfect practices must be corrected and stamped within two days of when they are assigned. They are turned in as a packet for credit on the day of the test.

Quizzes will cover the homework concepts from the previous few days. You can make up or retake up to 3 quizzes for full credit this quarter. Come see me outside of class time with your stamped perfect practices and completed schedule to do a make up/retake. Retakes must be done by the day before the unit test (last regular class day for unit 3). If you are absent the day a quiz is given, the retake/make up is your only chance at the quiz.

Chapter tests and the **final exam** must be taken on the days assigned; you will know at least a week ahead. Other times will be arranged only for the direst of circumstances (family funeral is valid if it is your own ☺). The final exam is cumulative – i.e. it covers the whole course.

Grading:

			A	92%
o	20%	Final Exam	A-	90%
o	30%	Unit Tests	B+	88%
o	30%	Quizzes	B	82%
o	10%	"Perfect Practices"	B-	80%
o	10%	Webwork & paper homework	C+	78%
			C	72%
			C-	70%
			D+	68%
			D	60%
			F	Below 60%

Late work: No late work accepted for paper assignments or perfect practices; 50% credit for late work on mathlab assignments. Note that assignments and perfect practices have built-in grace periods, so you have multiple opportunities to get help and make corrections prior to the deadline.

Cheating = Failure. You are allowed help on homework, and perfect practices. ("Help" and "copying" are two different things!!) Tests, quizzes, and the final exam are individual efforts. You will receive a zero with no chance for make up if you copy, help, hint, check, "access extra resources" etc. You will also forfeit any remaining quiz make-up opportunities.

Extra Help: Do not hesitate to come see me at my office during office hours or by arrangement. The University Math Center, located in ARC on the first floor of Brooks library has generous drop in tutoring hours. Also, Kahn academy (www.khanacademy.org) has an organized collection of over 2,400 tutorial videos, with special emphasis on math.

Accommodations: If you have a disability and require accommodations for this course please speak with me privately as soon as possible so that your needs may be appropriately met. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with Disability Services (DS). DS is located in Bouillon 140. Call (509) 963-2149 or email cds@cwu.edu for more information.

THE END: Your final exam will be held on Friday, June 7; 8:00 – 9:50 AM There will be regular daily work, review assignments, and a quiz due during the last week of class.