

Pre-Calculus 153 Syllabus

Winter 2023

Instructor: Jim Miller

Office: Samuelson 228F, Hours: 8:30-8:50, 11:00-11:50, and 1:00-2:00. I will also take appointments for other times. I can also be reached: email millerji@cwu.edu, cell 509 674 8138; texting works to schedule a meeting time. I do have classes M-F at 9:00, 10:00, and 12:00.

Classroom: 153.001 9:00-9:50 in Samuelson 107, 173.001 10:00-10:50 in Samuelson 107, and 173.002 12:00-12:50 in Samuelson 128.

Text: Lippman, David, and Melonie Rasmussen. *Precalculus: An Investigation of Functions* 2nd edition, Open Textbook Library, 2017.

Supplies: Paper, graph paper, sharp pencils, **graphing calculator** (recommend TI-83, TI-84 or TI-84 app and/or **Desmos** on your phone, tablet, or computer). Find a way to keep organized (three ring binder or whatever) that you will bring every day to class.

Course Description: Prerequisite: Math 100C or equivalent. This is a foundation course that stresses algebraic and elementary function concepts and the manipulative skills essential to the study of calculus. 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. Numerical, graphical, and algebraic approaches will be used to give students a better understanding of the mathematical concepts important in the study of calculus. This course incorporates the use of **graphing technology**, as they are excellent tools for visualizing some mathematical concepts and offer alternative ways of manipulating the mathematics. There are cell phone apps that are quite good graphing calculators and they will be allowed provided the use of the phone's other features don't become an issue.

Expectations: It is expected that you have basic algebra skills and knowledge of linear and quadratic functions. In addition, you need to be familiar with radical, rational, and exponential functions, and general graphing techniques. If your skills are weak, you will be expected to be spending extra time early and perhaps throughout the course to succeed. Some students have spent as much as 4-5 hours daily out of class working on the material. Failure will be a choice you will have to make. Success will be the other option! Choose this option though it may be the harder choice. You can track your progress on the grade tab of Canvas. Important information about the class and links will be in Canvas. There will be links to other resources provided by the instructor including YouTube videos.

Attendance: Daily attendance is expected and considered a necessity for passing this course. It is expected that you actively participate in class. Attendance and appropriate participation in class is crucial to your success and will be recorded and rewarded. If you are going to miss a class, I would like to know the reason for the absence prior to the absence. An email will do but if absences become frequent, I will be asking for a conference. Poor attendance is the number one reason for course failures.

Suggestions for success: Many students find that forming peer study groups is very helpful to their success. In addition, there are several other resources: math-tutoring center (Library), YouTube and other websites, and the instructor and his YouTube videos designed specifically for your needs. The key factor is to not get behind. Mathematics is a cumulative subject where new topics depend upon mastery of previous concepts. Also, each chapter will have a test and you will be allowed to use a **3x5 note card** for each test and all of your test note cards on the final.

Homework: Homework will be collected regularly, perused, and recorded. Problems that students struggle with will be reviewed in class and/or in YouTube videos. Assignments will be scheduled by chapter and posted on Canvas' Pages and handed out in class. Changes in due dates may occur occasionally and will be stated in class. It is essential that you practice your math and **ASK** for guidance in areas where your understanding is weak. Completion of homework **MUST BE** a priority!

Grading: Your grade will be based on: the tests (50%); final (30%); homework, participation, attendance, and quizzes (20%). Letter grades based on the overall percentage: 93 A, 90 A-, 87 B+, 83 B, 80 B-, 77 C+, 73 C, 70 C-, 67 D+, 63 D, 60 D-. There will be a test the final week of classes and the final is a cumulative test. Each of the 3x5 note cards that are allowed for each chapter test will be allowed on the final. Plan on making them and keeping them. **There will be multiple opportunities to prove that you have learned the material studied in this course if you happen to stumble on concepts here or there. Not all learners grasp concepts the first or second time introduced to them. The better your attendance the more options you will have.** Communicating with the instructor on a regular basis is essential especially if you are having difficulties.

Math Tutoring Center's Message: In the CWU Math Center, trained peer math tutors offer you support and guidance as you build your mathematical understanding, work through homework and other projects, and study for tests. Regardless of your background and whether you currently excel in math or not, our tutors are trained to meet you where you are, answer questions, help you build conceptual knowledge, and assist you in studying. We offer services in person and online. Drop-ins are welcome as availability allows from 10am-9pm Monday through Thursday, 10am-4pm Fridays, and 2pm-5pm Sundays. To make an appointment, download the *Retain Mobile* app from your app store, or visit cwu.retain.io. You can also visit the [Math Center website](#), e-mail the Learning Commons at tutoring@cwu.edu, call 509-963-1270, or visit our front desk in person on the first floor of Brooks Library.

Additional Notes:

Accessibility and Accommodations: Central Washington University is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning, discuss your concerns with the instructor. Students with disabilities should contact Disability Services to discuss a range of options to removing barriers, including accommodations. Disability Services is located in Hogue 126. Call (509) 963-2214 or email ds@cwu.edu for more information.

Sexual Harassment/Equity/Diversity statement: As your instructor, I am committed to creating and sustaining a safe and inclusive environment for learning. I expect you, as students, to share this commitment with me as we have a shared responsibility to treat each other with dignity and respect. Mutual respect and nondiscrimination includes freedom from sexual harassment. CWU policy defines sexual harassment as unwelcome, sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature under particular conditions. Title IX considers sexual harassment to be a form of discrimination. If you experience sexual harassment, or know someone who is being sexually harassed, you are encouraged to report concerns to me, another faculty member or employee, or to Gail Farmer, Equal Opportunity, at 509-963-2206, farmer@cwu.edu, Bouillon 205. Complete policies are available online at www.cwu.edu/hr.

Academic Dishonesty: Consult university policies ([CWUP 5-90-040\(22\)](#), [CWUR 2-90-040\(22\)](#), and [WAC 106-125-020](#)) for student conduct, cheating, plagiarism, and other academic expectations. CWU's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed, leading to disciplinary action up to and including failing the course.

Is my absence excused? Excused absences will not lower your overall grade in this class and are determined on a case-by-case basis. Excused absences are those that are both valid and verifiable, e.g. illness, bereavement, and school-related activities. Documentation is required. Excused absences do not include travel for holiday breaks, work, or non-emergency travel delays.

In compliance with RCW 28B.137.010, Central Washington University makes every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with students who, because of **religious obligations**, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Students must present written notice to their instructor within the first two weeks of class listing the specific dates on which accommodations are required. Contact the Dean of Student Success at (509) 963-1515 for further information or questions.

Students with disabilities who wish to set up academic adjustments in this class should give me a copy of their "Confirmation of Eligibility for Academic Adjustments" from the Disability Support Services Office as soon as possible so we can discuss how the approved adjustments will be implemented in this class. Students without this form should contact the Disability Support Services Office, or DS@cwu.edu or 963-2149. If you have non-qualifying issues talk to the instructor at your earliest convenience. **Do not wait!!!!**