

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO**  
**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MATH**

Course #: M1508, CRN\_25315

Course Title: Pre-Calculus

Credit Hrs: 5

Term: Spring 2020

Course Meetings & Location: Online **via** WebAssign

Prerequisite Courses: M0311 or TSI score between 350 – 390 or placement by previous Accuplacer scores

Instructor: Dr. Louise Guthrie

Office Location: Bell Hall 317

Contact Info: You may direct questions to “ask your teacher” in web assign

Email: [lguthrie@utep.edu](mailto:lguthrie@utep.edu)

Emergency Contact: (915)747-5761 (Math Department)

Office Hrs: The office hours are in room 305 Bell hall  
Monday from 12:30 to 1:30,  
Wednesday from 11:30 to 1:30, and  
Friday from 12:30 to 3:00  
Or by appointment

Office hours are only held during normal university scheduling. During off-scheduling (Finals week) or condensed scheduling (late start, closed university) hours will be adjusted appropriately.

**Please allow one business day for the return of emails. Evening and weekends emails will be attended to during regular business hours. Other times at the discretion of the instructor.**

Textbook(s), Materials: Required: Pre-Calculus by Larson, 10th edition (available as e-book and hardcover)

WebAssign Class Key: utep 5570 3717

Course Objectives (Learning Outcomes): Students are expected to have a clear understanding of the ideas of Precalculus as a solid foundation for subsequent courses in mathematics and other disciplines as well as for direct application to real life situations.

The content of the entire course covers topics from basic mathematics and develop them using practical and theoretical tools, building applications and making a strong support for Calculus classes.

A student passing MATH1508 Precalculus course will be able to work with the concepts of functions (functions in general, exponential and logarithmic functions, polynomial and rational functions, trigonometric functions, etc), to solve a system of linear and non-linear equations and inequalities, to make basic operations with matrices, to apply mathematical induction method, to work with trigonometric functions and their properties, and to apply them in problems related to other branches of Science: Calculus, Algebra, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Pharmacy, Engineering, Statistics, etc.

Course Activities/ Assignments: You will find all assignments on <http://webassign.net/> . Please use Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome since WebAssign works best with these browsers. All work, including quizzes and exams, will take place through WebAssign. You must have reliable internet in order to take this online course.

Assessment of Course Objectives: You will have quizzes as well as homework via WebAssign. There will be 3 exams and one comprehensive final. There will be no extra credit or curves on exams. There is also no replacement of any exam with the final exam score. Everyone must take the final, regardless of current standing in the course. As our course is offered online (Webassign), the exams will be taken online (Webassign) as well. Your exams will be offered on specific dates and will have a time limit. The password for all exams is: **ready**. Once you log on, the time runs regardless. A retake exam, for improvement, will be administered after exam 1, exam 2, and exam 3. The best grade of **the two** will be recorded. Do not register for a retake exam. Your retakes will be offered on the same dates as the rest of campus, but you will complete your retakes online as you do your other exams and homework. The retakes will be available for a 24 hour period on the date specified. They will still have a two hour time limit with password: **retake**.

If a student receives a grade of D or F, then they may register for Maymester or take a comprehensive TestOut exam after Maymester. A grade of 70% or better on the comprehensive Maymester exam or a 70% or better on the TestOut exam will replace a failing course grade with a grade of C. (A grade change form will be signed and submitted by the coordinator for PreCalculus, Mrs. Nada Al-Hanna).

Grading Policy: Your grade will be calculated as follows:

Homework	15%
Quizzes	10%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Exam 3	15%
Comprehensive Final	30%

The grading scale for this course is:

90 – 100 = A

80 – 89 = B

70 – 79 = C

60 – 69 = D

0 – 59 = F.

**The Drop Date for this semester is Friday April 3, 2020. No drops will be approved after this date.**

Make-up Policy: No makeup exams will be allowed except with proper documentation, i.e. doctor's note, hospital's note, or UTEP excused absence document.

Attendance Policy: **If you do not submit any assignments on WebAssign by 11:59 PM on Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, then you will be dropped from this class for lack of effort. You are expected to work toward completion of the course assignments **daily**. There will be no set times that you must be on line, however, **if you do not submit any assignments onto WebAssign for two consecutive weeks, then you may be dropped from this class for lack of effort.** You are expected to log into WebAssign and work on the course assignments daily. Also, you must read any announcements that are posted on your WebAssign homepage and on Blackboard. Check your miner's email for any WebAssign notification emails and other emails that I may send you.**

Disability Statement: If a student has or suspects she/he has a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any CASS accommodation letters and instructions. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>. *CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*

Academic Integrity Policy: The University policy is that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. For the official policies on academic integrity and scholastic dishonesty, please refer to <https://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=admin.utep.edu/hoop>.

Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents' Rules and Regulations, which are available for inspection electronically at <https://www.utsystem.edu/offices/board-regents/regents-rules-and-regulations>.

All students are expected and required to obey the law, to comply with the Regents' [Rules and Regulations](#), with System and University rules, with directives issued by an administrative official in the course of his or her authorized duties, and to observe standards of conduct appropriate for the University. A student who enrolls at the University is charged with the obligation to conduct himself/herself in a manner compatible with the University's function as an educational institution.

Any student who engages in conduct that is prohibited by Regents' [Rules and Regulations](#), U. T. System or University rules, specific instructions issued by an administrative official or by federal, state, or local laws is subject to discipline, whether such conduct takes place on or off campus or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Military Statement: If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and /or training during the course of the semester, then you must contact me as soon as possible **before** you leave.

Webpage's for Pre-Calculus: <http://www.math.utep.edu/classes/precalculus/>

Course Schedule: The course schedule will be kept on WebAssign with due dates. A calendar is provided so that you can organize your time better to complete assignments when they are due and be prepared for the exams. Assignments are available for limited extensions, with a reduced score, but quizzes and exams are not eligible for extensions.

### Class Procedures

We will use WebAssign exclusively for this course. Blackboard will only be used for additional resources.

- 1) On the first day of class January 21<sup>th</sup>, you must use the provided **WebAssign** Class Key to create your account on Webassign and start working on your assignments (Please see Attendance Policy)
- 2) **The first assignment you should complete is called Entering Math Answers in Enhanced WebAssign.** In fact, you won't be able to access any other assignments until you score 100% on this one (it is very easy, it's just showing you how to enter things into
- 3) Once you complete that first assignment, I strongly suggest that you follow the course calendar and work on the rest of the assignments daily. The homework is designed to help you learn the material, with 5 attempts at each problem. The quizzes are designed to help you test your knowledge of the material in a limited time frame. The exams are a major portion of your grade so be sure to log on and complete your exams during the times they are open.
- 4) Semester Exams: Each of the 3 semester exams are timed exams. Once you click on the exam, you will have 2 hours to finish approximately 20 questions. Once you start the exam, the timer begins and keeps going even if you log out, so be sure that you have an uninterrupted two hours before you click on the exam. The password for every main exam is the word “**ready**” without the quotes.
- 5) Final Exam: The final exam is a timed exam. Once you click on the final exam you will have 2 hours and 45 minutes to finish 20 questions. Once you start the exam, the timer

begins and keeps going even if you log out, so be sure that you have an uninterrupted two hours and 45 minutes before you click on the exam. The password for your comprehensive final exam is the word “**ready**” without the quotes.

- 6) **Try to keep up with the calendar on the syllabus.** We cover three or four sections per week. There are **no extensions** on quizzes or exams without a documented reason, so you need to keep up on the work so that you will be ready for the exams when they come.
- 7) **You can get extensions for the homework assignments.** You have two weeks to request the extension, but once you have requested it you only have two days from the time you accepted the extension to complete the assignment. In order to request the extension, once the assignment due date has passed, click on Past Assignments and then click on “Ask for Extension”. If you view the answer key first, the system will not let you request the extension. Homework extensions come with a penalty of 15% off any problem completed after the original deadline. The best thing to do is to get your work done on time. If you rely too much on taking extensions, you will get too far behind and not be prepared for the exams when they come. **You cannot ask for extensions** after dead day, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

I hope this will help you get started in the course. You should be able to start working on the WebAssign assignments beginning on Tuesday, 1/21. **Please log in on 1/21 and get started on the course - anyone who has not registered for WebAssign and has not submitted any assignments into WebAssign by Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:59PM, will be dropped from the course.** I will be monitoring who has not registered after the first few days and sending reminder emails.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and good luck in the course!

Dr. Guthrie