

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO**  
**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES**

Course Number: MATH 1508: CRN **31160**

Course Title: Pre-Calculus

Credit Hrs: 5

Term: Summer 2020

Course Meetings & Location: Online via WebAssign and Blackboard

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

Course Fee: (if applicable) None

Instructor: Dr. Louise Guthrie

Office Location: Bell Hall 319 - but all questions will be answered online this summer or by a zoom appointment. Please communicate with me via web assign - > Communications - > ask your teacher.

Contact Info: Office phone number: 747- 5908  
Math Department Phone number: (915) 747-5761  
[lguthrie@utep.edu](mailto:lguthrie@utep.edu)

Office Hrs: Virtual ones through zoom 1:30- - 3:00 T, Th. I will send you an email through your miners account with the link for zoom. There will also be additional office hours where you can ask questions to a teaching assistant and those times will be arranged during the first week of the semester.

If you want to ask questions by email, it is best to do that through web assign "ask your teacher" and let me know which assignment and problem you are having trouble with (for example homework 3.2 problem 14)

If you would like an appointment over zoom, please let me know (through communication- > "ask your teacher" in web assign ) and I will arrange a time with you.

Please allow one business day for the return of emails. Evening and weekend emails will be attended to during regular business hours.

During off-scheduling (Finals week) or condensed scheduling (late start, closed university) hours will be adjusted appropriately.

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

**Technology/Materials:** Suggested: Graphing Calculator

Required: Webassign account

**WebAssign:** WebAssign is an online Course Management System of Cengage, the publisher of our text. You must have reliable internet in order to take an online course. You will use the instructions below to access and register for WebAssign. You will have an eight-day free trial so that you may access your coursework immediately.

**Instructions to access and register for WebAssign:**

To enter your course on WebAssign on June 8, go to [www.webassign.net](http://www.webassign.net) and follow these steps:

- 1) Click on "Enter Class Key"
- 2) Enter the class key given by your instructor: utep XXXX XXXX as shown below:

|      |      |      |
|------|------|------|
| utep | XXXX | XXXX |
|------|------|------|

- 3) Verify the section number and instructor name, then enter your information. Please make sure that you use your miners email and that you remember the password that you create.
- 4) The next time you log in, click on "Log In" and enter your miners email and the password that you created.

You are required to purchase an access code to log in as soon as possible and definitely before the grace period ends. If you purchased a new book from the UTEP bookstore, the code should have come with it. When entering the code, enter all the words and characters in the boxes appropriately.

**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.

**Activities and Assignments:** You will find all assignments on [www.webassign.net](http://www.webassign.net). Please use Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari since WebAssign works best with these browsers. All work, including homework, quizzes, and exams, will take place through WebAssign.

**Test Out:** If a student receives a grade of “D” or “F”, then they take a comprehensive Test Out exam. A grade of 70% or better on the comprehensive Test Out exam, will replace a failing course grade with a grade of “C”. The Test Out exam will be offered on August 5<sup>th</sup>. (A grade change form will be signed and submitted by the coordinator for Math 1508, Mrs. Nada Al-Hanna.)

**Assessment of Course Objectives:**

You will have course PowerPoint and video access through the Resources section of WebAssign. All homework will be completed on WebAssign. After few sections of homework, you will have a 60-minute timed quiz over that material. The password for all quizzes is the word: **ready**. The exams are also timed, but at two hours each. There will be 15 – 20 questions on each of the three exams. To review for the exam, a practice exam will be available. The exams will be available for a 24-hour period on the date specified. The practice exam will count as a homework grade. The exam password for exams 1, 2, and 3 is the word: **ready**.

A retake exam, for improvement, will appear on WebAssign after the original exam according to the class calendar. The best grade of the two will be recorded. You do not have to take the retake exam if you are satisfied with your original exam score. The retakes will be available for a 24-hour period on the date specified. They will also have a two-hour time limit with password: **retake**.

You will have a final comprehensive exam. Everyone must take the final exam, regardless of current standing in the course. This exam will be available for a 24-hour period according to the course calendar. Your final exam will have a time limit of two hours and forty-five minutes (165 minutes) and will have a password of: **ready**.

For all timed assignments, the clock begins once you type the appropriate password. This clock will not stop for any reason, not even if you log out. For this reason, it is important to check for any updates on your computer prior to beginning the timed assignments.

**Course Schedule:** A comprehensive course schedule is available as a separate document. Semester highlights are included.

- June 8 – First day of classes
- June 15 – Census Day
- **July 10 – Drop Day (Last day to drop with a W)**
- July 31 – Last Day of Classes
- August 3 - Final Exam
- August 5 – Testout Exam

**Grading Policy:** You will be graded on homework, quizzes, exams, and a final exam

15% Homework Assignments  
10% Quizzes  
15% Exam I  
15% Exam II  
15% Exam III  
30% Final Exam

Letter grades are determined according to the following scale:

| Grade | Score  |
|-------|--------|
| A     | 90-100 |
| B     | 80-89  |
| C     | 70-79  |
| D     | 60-69  |
| F     | <60    |

Homework/Quiz Policies: Homework Assignment Settings: Each question has 5 attempts. The entire question needs to be submitted at once. You will be able to see the answer to the problem you just submitted. After each submission, the numbers will randomize. I recommend you get help after the 3<sup>rd</sup> incorrect submission rather than waiting until you are out of attempts to get help. You will receive 5% extra credit for any problems submitted 24 hours before the due date.

Quiz Settings: Each quiz consists of questions from the sections indicated in parentheses. The quiz is password protected and timed. You will have 60 minutes to complete the quiz from the time you type in the password (**ready**). Each question has two attempts and will not randomize after the first submission. To ensure you are successful, make sure the internet connection is stable, you are ready to focus on the quiz for the next 60 minutes, and you have given yourself enough time before the due date. If you choose to start a quiz less than 60 minutes before the due date, the quiz will conclude at the due date and your answers will be auto-submitted. You will receive 5% extra credit for quizzes submitted at least 24 hours before the due date.

Make-up Policy: Homework: An automatic homework extension can be requested within 3 days after the due date. The new due date will be 48 hours from the time the extension is requested. Note, this means that **time due** will also change. 10% penalty will be applied to problems submitted after the original due date.

Quiz: There are no automatic extensions for quizzes.

If you feel like you have some extenuating circumstance, or have an excused absence that will keep you from completing the assignment or quiz in a timely manner, please contact me right away and be prepared to show supporting documentation.

University Sponsored Events: (conferences, student athletes, etc...) The student needs to inform me of any traveling conflicts before they leave and make adequate arrangements to make up the missed material with one week of returning. Failure to do so, will result in the forfeiture of points.

Exam: A make-up exam will only be given in extraordinary circumstances (severe illness, death in immediate family), and with appropriate documentation (e.g. doctor's note).

**Attendance Policy:** If you do not submit any assignments on WebAssign by June 10 at 11:59 PM, then you may be dropped from this class for lack of effort. You are expected to work toward completion of the course assignment daily. You are expected to attend all class meetings via Blackboard Collaborative Ultra. However, if you do not submit any assignments onto WebAssign for three consecutive business days, then you may be dropped from this class due to lack of effort. You are expected to check Blackboard and your miners email regularly for announcements as well as the WebAssign Announcement section.

**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. 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.

**Civility Statement:** All correspondence with your instructor and other students should be conducted in an appropriate manner.

**Disability Statement:** If you need accommodations for your success, 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. For additional information, please visit the CASS website <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>

The student is responsible for informing me of the accommodations needed and will be responsible for proactive actions in regards to having accommodations met.

**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, you are encouraged to contact your instructor as soon as possible.

**Tutoring:** The MaRCS tutoring center offers free tutoring, click here for more information: <https://www.utep.edu/science/math/marcs/>. There are several useful features of WebAssign designed to give extra help. Please also make use of the instructor's office hours.

**Websites:** WebAssign, [www.webassign.net](http://www.webassign.net).

UTEP Math 1508 website:

<http://www.math.utep.edu/classes/precalculus/>

## Class Procedures

We will use WebAssign primarily for this course. Blackboard will be used for additional instructor resources.

1. On the first day of class, June 8<sup>th</sup>, you must use the WebAssign Class Key provided by your instructor to create your account on WebAssign and start working on your assignments. (See attendance policy.)
2. The first assignment to 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. This assignment details how to enter your answers on WebAssign.
3. Once you complete that first assignment, I suggest you follow the course calendar to 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. The quizzes are times at 60 minutes each. Once you click on the quiz, you will have 60 minutes to finish it. Once you start the quiz, the timer begins and keeps going even if you log out, so be sure that you have an uninterrupted 60 minutes before you click on the quiz. The password for every quiz is the word **ready**.



5. Each of the three semester exams are timed exams. Once you click on the exam, you will have 2 hours to finish 15 – 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**.
6. The final exam is also 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 timer begins and keeps going even if you log out, so be sure that you have an uninterrupted two hours and forty-five minutes before you click on the exam. The password for your comprehensive final exam is the word **ready**.
7. It is essential that you try to keep up with the calendar that accompanies the syllabus. We cover several sections each week. There are no extensions on quizzes or exams without a documented reason, so you need to keep up on the homework so that you can be successful on the exams.
8. You can get extensions for the homework assignments. You have three days to request the extension, but once you have requested it , you only have only 48 hours from the time you accepted the extension to complete the assignment. Note, the time due will not necessarily be 11:59PM. In order to request an extension for a homework assignment, the deadline had to pass. Click on Past Assignments and then click on “Ask for Extension” on the assignment you wish to extend. If you view the answer key first, the system will not let you request the extension. Homework extensions come with a 10 percent penalty on any problems not completed before the original due date, so 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 quizzes and exams when they come. You cannot ask for extensions after the last day of class.
9. **Resources:** You can click on resources at the bottom of your WebAssign homepage and you will be able to access PowerPoint lectures from the publisher as well as the Cengage lecture videos for each section that we cover. These are great built in resources to add to what your instructor provides.

I hope this will help to get you started in the course. You should be able to start working on the WebAssign assignments beginning Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Please log in on June 8 and get started on the course. Anyone who has not registered for WebAssign and has not submitted any assignments into WebAssign by Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM may be **dropped** from the course. I will be monitoring who has not registered after the first day and sending reminder emails.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Good luck in the course!

Dr. Guthrie