

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

Course #: M1508  
Course Title: Pre-Calculus  
Credit Hrs: 5  
Term: Spring 2017  
Course Meetings &  
Location: Monday: 10:30-11:20am, Tuesday and Thursday: 10:30-11:50am, Friday: 9:30-11:20am  
Prerequisite Courses: M0311 or TSI score between 350 – 390 or placement by previous Accuplacer scores.

Instructor: Dr. Maria Pia Beccar Varela  
Office Location: Bell Hall 216  
Contact Info: 747-8038  
E-mail address mpvarela@utep.edu  
Emergency Contact 915-747-5761 (Math Department)  
Office Hrs: Monday 3:30-5:00pm and – Thursday 4:00-5:30pm but stop by anytime you need.


Textbook(s), Materials: Required: Pre-Calculus by Larson, 9th Edition (available as e-book and hardcover)  
Suggested: Laptop computer  
Graphical Calculator

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. Unannounced quizzes may be administered in the classroom. Students may have 20 – 30 minute reading assignments due on WebAssign the day of each lecture.

Assessment of Course Objectives: There will be 3 exams. These are departmental exams and are to be taken in the classroom on the assigned dates found in the calendar. A WebAssign Retake Exam is administered in the library after each exam.

To register for a retake exam go to <http://www.math.utep.edu/classes/testout.php>. Failure to register means that you may not take this optional exam. Students must attempt the written exams, failure to take the first two written exam will result in the student to be dropped from this class.

If a student receives a grade of D or F, 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 Pre-Calculus, Mr. Julian Viera.).

Grading Policy: Your grade will be calculated as follows:

WebAssign assignments	10%
Quizzes	10%
Workshop attendance grade	05%

12	100
11	90
9	80
8	70
< 7	0 - drop

Exam 1	25%
Exam 2	25%
Exam 3	25%

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 Thursday March 30, 2017. 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:** Students must attend every class and attend all lectures and workshops. Attendance will be taken. A student will be dropped if he/she misses 3 lectures or 4 workshop sessions. Students are to arrive to class on time. It is the student's responsibility to make up missed assignments as determined by their instructor.
- Civility Statement:** Calculators may not be shared during quizzes and exams. Please do not use cell phones, pagers, iPods, MP3 players, blue tooth devices, etc. during class. Cell phones and pagers should be set to silent or vibrate, and any calls should be taken outside of class. Please do not wear headsets or blue tooth devices during class. Please don't talk in class. Cell phone calculators may not be used on quizzes or exams. Active participation in class is expected, teamwork in class will be implemented.
- 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 <http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm>.

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, you must contact me as soon as possible **before** you leave.

**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 [www.utep.edu/CASS](http://www.utep.edu/CASS). *CASS' Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*

**Webpage's for  
Pre-Calculus:**

Visit our website and read the course information thoroughly at <http://www.math.utep.edu/classes/precalculus/> . All workshop materials will be posted on the website.

Find us on facebook for information and News,  
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/UTEP-PreCalculusCalculus/180583381999326>

**Course Schedule:**

<b>Material for Exam 1 : chapter 1 and chapter 2 up to 2.5</b>				
<b>Wk</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Sections</b>	<b>Description</b>
	1/16/2017	Monday	No Classes	
1	1/17/2017	Tuesday	Syllabus/1.1	Rectangular Coordinates
	1/19/2017	Thursday	1.1 - 1.2	Rectangular Coordinates/Graphs of Equations
2	1/23/2017	Monday	1.3 - 1.4	Linear Equations in Two Variables/Functions
	1/24/2017	Tuesday	1.4 - 1.5	Functions/Analyzing Graphs of Functions
	1/26/2017	Thursday	1.6 - 1.7	Library of Parent Functions/Transformations of Functions
3	1/30/2017	Monday	1.7	Transformations of Functions
	1/31/2017	Tuesday	1.8	Combinations of Functions
	2/2/2017	Thursday	1.9	Inverse Functions
4	2/6/2017	Monday	2.1	Quadratic functions and Models
	2/7/2017	Tuesday	2.3 - 2.4	Polynomials and Synthetic Division/Complex Numbers
	2/9/2017	Thursday	2.4	Complex Numbers
5	2/13/2017	Monday	2.5	Zeros of Polynomial Functions
	2/14/2017	Tuesday	Review (13 sections)	
	2/16/2017	Thursday	<b>Exam 1</b>	
	<b>Feb. 24</b>	<b>Exam1 Retakes</b>	<b>Library 204A or B</b>	<b>Online Testing</b>
<b>Material for Exam 2: Section 2.6; Chapter 3; 7.1 - 7.4 and 8.1 - 8.3</b>				
<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Sections</b>	<b>Description</b>	
6	2/20/2017	Monday	2.6	Rational Functions/Exponential Functions and Their Graphs
	2/21/2017	Tuesday	3.1	Exponential Functions and Their Graphs
	2/23/2017	Thursday	3.2 - 3.3	Properties of Logarithms/Logarithmic Functions and their Graphs
	2/24/2017	Friday	Exam 1 Retake	
7	2/27/2017	Monday	3.4	Exponential and Logarithmic Equations
	2/28/2017	Tuesday	3.5	Exponential and Logarithmic Models

	3/2/2017	Thursday	7.1	Linear and Nonlinear Systems of Equations
8	3/6/2017	Monday	7.2	Two-Var Linear Systems
	3/7/2017	Tuesday	7.3	Multivariable Linear Systems
	3/9/2017	Thursday	7.4	Partial Fractions
	3/13/2017	3/17/2017	No Classes	Spring Break
	7	7		
9	3/20/2017	Monday	8.1	Matrices and Systems of Equations
	3/21/2017	Tuesday	8.2	Operations with Matrices
	3/23/2017	Thursday	8.3	The Inverse of a Square Matrix
	3/25/2017	Friday	No classes	
	6			
10	3/27/2017	Monday	Review	
	3/28/2017	Tuesday	Exam 2	
	3/30/2017	Thursday	4.1	Radian and Degree Measure/ <b>DROP DATE DEADLINE</b>
	3/31/2017	Friday	No classes	Cesar Chavez Day - No classes
	7			
	Apr. 7	Exam2 Retake	Library 204A or B	Online Testing
	<b>Material for Exam 3: chapter 4 and chapter 5, with 6.1 and 6.2</b>			
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Sections</b>	<b>Description</b>
11	4/3/2017	Monday	4.2	Trig Functions: The unit Circle
	4/4/2017	Tuesday	4.3	Right Triangle Trigonometry
	4/6/2017	Thursday	4.4	Trigonometric functions of any Angle
12	4/10/2017	Monday	4.5	Graphs of Sine and Cosine
	4/11/2017	Tuesday	4.6	Graphs of Other Trig functions
	4/13/2017	Thursday	4.7 - 4.8	Inverse Trigonometric functions/Applications and Models
	4/14/2017	Friday	<b>NO CLASSES</b>	<b>Spring Study Day</b>
	7			
13	4/17/2017	Monday	5.1	Using fundamental Identities
	4/18/2017	Tuesday	5.2	Verifying Trigonometric Identities
	4/20/2017	Thursday	5.3	Solving Trigonometric Equations
14	4/24/2017	Monday	5.3	Solving Trigonometric Equations
	4/25/2017	Tuesday	5.4 - 5.5	Sum and Difference Formulas
	4/27/2017	Thursday	6.1	Law of sines
	7			

15	5/1/2017	Monday	6.1 - 6.2	Law of Sines/Law of Cosines
	5/2/2017	Tuesday	Review (15 sections)	
	5/4/2017	Thursday	<b>Exam 3</b>	
	5/5/2017	Friday	<b>NO CLASSES</b>	<b>Dead day</b>
16	5/8 - 5/12	<b>Instructors will schedule a day during finals week to meet with students to return exam 3</b>		
	5/11/2017	<b>Exam 3 Retake</b>	<b>Library 204A or B</b>	<b>Online Testing</b>