

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

Course Number: MATH 1508: CRN 12527

Course Title: Pre-Calculus

Credit Hrs: 5

Term: Fall 2020

Course Meetings & Location: None – course is entirely online via WebAssign and Blackboard

Workshop Meetings & Location: Wed. / 9:30 - 11:20 AM, online Via Blackboard Collaborative Ultra. To access the workshop meetings: sign-in to Blackboard> go to the “**Precal Workshop Fall 2020**” class> on the left menu click on the “Workshop Meeting” link> select the workshop with your CRN> join.

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

Instructor: Dr. Maria Pia Beccar Varela

Office Location: Online Only

Contact Info: Instructor email: mpvarela@utep.edu
Math Department: mathdept@utep.edu
Course coordinator: nfahanna@utep.edu

Virtual Office Hrs: Will be offered in Blackboard and students will be able to ask questions by using the ‘Ask my teacher’ feature in WebAssing.

Office hours are only held during normal university scheduling. Please allow one business day for the return of emails. Evening and weekend emails will be attended to during regular business hours. Other times at the discretion of the instructor.

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

Textbook: Pre-Calculus by Larson, 10th edition with the Enhanced WebAssign access card. You may purchase just the access card which contains the e-book:

ISBN-13: 978-1-337-27107-3

ISBN-10: 1-337-27107-1

Technology/Materials:

- Suggested: Graphing Calculator
- Required: WebAssign account
- You must have reliable internet and a computer that can run the required Lockdown Browser in order to take this online course. Please download the free WebAssign Lockdown Browser. This will be required in order to complete the exams. It can be found at https://www.webassign.net/manual/student_guide/install-lockdown-browser.htm

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 a 14-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 August 24, go to 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 in the three boxes given.
- 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. 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. A two-hour workshop per week will take place via Blackboard Collaborative Ultra.

Exams will require the use of the WebAssign Lockdown Browser. Please download the browser here:

https://www.webassign.net/manual/student_guide/install-lockdown-browser.htm

For more information on the use of the browser, please see the student guide here:

https://www.webassign.net/manual/student_guide/t_s_assignments_lockdown_browser.htm

Winter-Mester /Test Out: If a student receives a grade of D or F, then they may register for Wintermester or take a comprehensive TestOut exam after

Wintermester. A grade of 70% or better on the comprehensive Wintermester 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).

Resources: You will have course PowerPoint and video access through the Resources section of WebAssign. 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.

Class Activities & Policies: **Homework:** All homework will be completed on WebAssign. Each question has 5 attempts. You will be able to see the answer to the problem you just submitted. I recommend you get help after the 3rd incorrect submission rather than waiting until you are out of attempts to get help.

Quizzes: After a few sections of homework, you will have a 60-minute timed quiz over that material. The password for all quizzes is the word **ready**. Each question has 3 attempts. 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.

Exams: To review for each exam, an exam review will be available. The review is considered a homework score, so be sure to complete the reviews. The exams will be available for a 24-hour period on the date specified by the course calendar. The exam itself is timed at 120 minutes (two hours) and will have an accessible scientific calculator. You have two attempts at each problem. The password for all exams is the word **ready**. If you choose to start an exam less than 120 minutes before the due date, the exam will conclude at the due date and your answers will be auto-submitted. You must have already downloaded the WebAssign Lockdown Browser in order to access the exams.

Retake Exams 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. You will have two attempts at each problem. The retake exams will also have a two-hour time limit with password: **retake**. If you choose to start an exam less than 120 minutes before the due date, the exam will conclude at the due date and your answers will be auto-submitted. You must have already downloaded the WebAssign Lockdown Browser in order to access the exams.

Workshop: You will have a two-hour workshop meeting every week. You will be enrolled in the workshop class “**Precal Workshop Fall 2020**” via Blackboard. You will have many resources available such as PowerPoints, worksheets, and videos. You will have to attend a 2-hour workshop meeting every week via Blackboard Collaborative Ultra. To access the workshop meetings: sign-in to Blackboard> go to the “**Precal Workshop Fall 2020**” class> on the left menu click on the “Workshop Meeting” link> select the workshop with your CRN> join. Your workshop grade will depend on your participation. You will have poll questions to answer during your workshop which will count for your participation. If you cannot make the time assigned for your workshop, then you must provide valid documentation to the Pre-Calculus coordinator, Mrs. Nada Al-Hanna (nfalhanna@utep.edu), by the first day of class, August 24th, in order to be moved to another time that fits your schedule.

For all timed assignments, the clock begins once you open the assignment. 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.

- August 24 – First day of classes
- September 9 – Census Day

- **October 30 – Drop Day (Last day to drop with a W)**
- December 4 – Dead day

Grading Policy: You will be graded on homework, quizzes, workshop, and exams.

10% Homework
 10% Quizzes
 05% Workshop
 25% Exam I
 25% Exam II
 25% Exam III

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

Drop Policy: **The Drop Date for this semester is Friday, October 30th, 2020 before 5:00 PM. No drops will be approved after this date or time.**

Students who decide to drop the course must process a drop form, by emailing records@utep.edu by October 30th. Please note that the College of Science will remain aligned with the University and **will not approve any drop requests after that date.**

Make-up Policy: **Homework:** An automatic homework extension can be requested within 7 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. No penalty will be applied to problems submitted after the original due date.

Quizzes: There are no automatic extensions for quizzes.

If you feel like you have some extraordinary 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.

Exams: 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).

Workshop: Absences will **not** be excused **EXCEPT** with proper documentation, i.e. doctor's note, hospital's note, or UTEP excused absence document. For those who have excused absences, please watch the recorded session you missed. Document the polling questions/answers, complete the weekly worksheet for that session, and send these to your workshop TA via email to provide the evidence of your active participation in the session. Those with unexcused absences will receive 0 points for the missed session.

Attendance Policy: If you do not submit any assignments on WebAssign by Wednesday, Sep 2nd 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. However, if you do not submit any assignments onto WebAssign for two consecutive weeks, 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, TA, 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, 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.

UTEP Math 1508 website:

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

Course Calendar: See separate document.