

Precalculus I

1) Welcome to MATH141 – Precalculus

Taking a class via distance education puts a tremendous amount of responsibility on the student. In addition to academic considerations, you should consider your learning style, strengths and preferences before enrolling in a distance-learning course. These courses are especially appropriate if you are self-motivated, goal-oriented and work well independently. Here are some points about yourself and your education to consider:

- Do you have a compelling reason or goal to complete the course?
- Are you self-disciplined?
- Are you comfortable following written instructions?
- Do you have a good Internet connection from home?
- Are you comfortable using email and sending email attachments?
- Are you a strong computer user?

If you do not have the class or are unsure about your willingness to devote the time (two - three hours per day minimum) and energy required we suggest you wait until you can take the class in the traditional lecture format. A distance-learning course saves commuting time, but requires at least as much time as attending classes and completing assignments for traditional on campus lecture courses.

For this class we will be using an online system called MyLab. MyLab is a series of text-specific online courses that accompany Prentice Hall textbooks. Over one million students have improved their mathematics skills with MyLab's dependable and easy-to-use online homework, guided solutions, multimedia, tests, and e-Books. MyLab offers the following features:

- online homework assignments
- online exams
- complete online course content and customization tools
- guided mathematical instruction
- multimedia learning aids
- student study plan
- free tutoring from the Math Tutor Center

In order to use MyLab you will need a good high speed Internet connection, and an up-to-date browser. When you login to MyLab for the first time you will be provided with the information needed to configure your browser so that it will work properly with MyLab.

I am looking forward to working with you and hope that this class will be an interesting, challenging, useful, and productive experience. If you have any questions please send electronic mail to:

Daniel Graber, daniel.graber@skagit.edu

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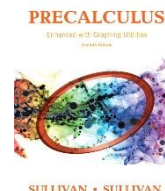
2) Objectives of MATH141 – Precalculus

This course will cover trigonometric functions, complex numbers, the solution of triangles, and conic sections.

3) Required Text

Precalculus : Enhanced with Graphing Utilities, 7th ed, Sullivan
Pearson – Addison Wesley ISBN# 9780134268231

The book is not actually required for the class, but is suggested if you learn better out of a text. If you are comfortable with online resources then you can just purchase the MyMathLab access code and the book can be viewed as a pdf online. The access code can be purchased in the bookstore, or online with a credit card while registering through MyMathLab.



4) Homework Assignments

Online homework assignments will count for 25% of your final grade for the term. Homework assignments must be completed by the due dates in the course calendar and will all be done on MyMathLab. If not completed by their individual due dates, you can complete them late with a penalty of 5% per day, but they cannot be done after the exam due date for that section. For the first assignment, Chapter 1, Section 1, it will show that it is past due. That is intentional. It will tell you to enter a password provided by me, which is: Ireadthesyllabus

5) Exams

Online exams will count for 50% of your final grade for the term. When taking the online exams you may use your calculator, any notes, and textbook, but cannot work with other people. You will be allowed up to two attempts on each exam. The final score will be the average score for the attempts. NOTE: you are only required to take each exam one time. I would strongly suggest doing the homework for the appropriate chapters before the exams, but there is no requirement that you do. There is a 120 minute time limit on all exams and they must be completed by the due dates listed in this syllabus. **There will be no extensions.**

6) Final Exam

There will be a final exam for this class that will take place in a classroom at the Mount Vernon campus of Skagit Valley College on Tuesday, August 22nd. The final exam will count for 25% of your grade, and you will need to earn at least a 50% on the final exam to receive a passing grade in this class. You will not be able to use your notes or book for this exam so it is important that you truly learn the material throughout the quarter. If you cannot take the exam at the scheduled time then you will have to set up an appropriate proctor and have all the contact information for the proctor to me by Aug 1st. If the information is not to me by that date then you will have to take the final on campus on Aug 22nd.

7) Grading Scale

Percent Range	Letter	77% - 79% =	C+
93% - 100% =	A	73% - 76% =	C
90% - 92% =	A-	70% - 72% =	C-
87% - 89% =	B+	67% - 69% =	D+
83% - 86% =	B	60% - 66% =	D
80% - 82% =	B-	0% - 59% =	E

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8) Electronic Mail

Checking your electronic mail and our MyMathLab site daily is critical. You are responsible for all the information that I send to you via electronic mail and all the posted information. If you change your electronic mail address please update that information on MyMathLab or you will not receive any of the messages I send out. **Please include your full name and which class you are in with every email message you send to me.**

9) Course Calendar

Week	Dates	Assignments	Due Dates
01:	July 5-8	Chapter 1: Graphs	Chapter 1 & 2 HW and Exam 1 must be completed by Jul 17th at 11:55 PM (no exceptions)
02:	July 10-14	Chapter 2: Functions and Their Graphs	
03:	July 17-21	Chapter 3: Linear and Quadratic Functions	Chapter 3 HW and Exam 2 must be completed by July 24th at 11:55 PM (no exceptions)
04:	July 24 – 28	Chapter 4: Polynomial and Rational Functions	Chapter 4 HW and Exam 3 must be completed by July 31st at 11:55 PM (no exceptions)
05:	July 31 – Aug 4	Chapter 5: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions	
06:	August 7 - 11	Chapter 5: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions	Chapter 11 HW and Exam 5 must be completed by Aug 14th at 11:55 PM (no exceptions)
07:	August 14 - 18	Chapter 11: Systems of Equations and Inequalities	Chapter 11 HW and Exam 5 must be completed by Aug 21st at 11:55 PM (no exceptions)
08:	August 22	Last Day of Class	Final Exam will be taken at the Mount Vernon Campus.

10) Drop-In Tutoring

Please check the course Announcements for times and dates of the drop-in tutoring sessions. Typically drop-in tutoring is offered both on the Mount Vernon Campus and the Whidbey Island Campus. There is also a Math Center in F-212 on the Mount Vernon campus that is a good place to work on this class and it will also be staffed with tutors on a regular basis.

11) Student Academic Dishonesty Procedure

Students found cheating on tests or examinations will receive an E grade for the course and procedures for expulsion from the college may also be initiated. Cheating includes (among other things) copying another individual's work (or allowing someone to copy your work), using unauthorized references on a test or examination, or allowing another individual to take a test or examination for you.

12) If you are a student with a disability and need academic accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services in the Counseling and Career Services center or call 416-7654.