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| Precalculus Summer 2009, MTH 151, 4 Credits MTWH 7:10: - 8:45 in 0111 Cowley Hall | Dr. James Peirce , 1027 Cowley, 785-6604 Office Hours: TBA email: peirce.jame AT uwlax DOT edu web: www.uwlax.edu/faculty/peirce/151Summer09/ |
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Course Description: A precalculus course on properties, graphs, and applications of elementary transcendental functions. Topics include concepts from analytic geometry; theory of equations; the logarithmic, exponential, trigonometric, and inverse trigonometric functions; and analytic trigonometry. Prerequisite: MTH 150 or two years of high school algebra and an appropriate placement test score.

Learning Objectives: The objectives of Precalculus are for you to develop a command of the topics in the course description and to be able to apply these concepts to solve problems in the biological and physical sciences. By the end of the course you will be well versed in the functions and properties needed for success in Calculus I.

Main Text: Algebra and Trigonometry with Analytic Geometry, Classic Eleventh Edition, by Swokowski/Cole, ISBN 0-534-39726-3. We will cover most of chapters 3-8 and 11.

Warning: Due to the amount of material covered, it is very important that you keep up with the assigned reading and homework. This is a well written textbook with many examples and perspectives; to best prepare yourself for class, you should read ahead.

Attendance: If you miss class due to circumstances beyond your control or if despite efforts you do not understand material covered in class, I am EAGER to provide additional help! If you can't meet during my office hours, feel free to contact me by phone or email to set up an appointment. On the other hand, if you choose to skip class or sleep through class you should not expect me to provide private tutoring on the material you missed.

Homework: Homework problems will be assigned each day on the course webpage and should be worked on **DAILY**. Please do all the problems (both from the book and the Homequiz). Homework will not be collected, but a thoughtful completion of the suggested homework problems is the most reliable path to success in this course. Don't fall behind. When you need help, please ask! We don't have time to work all the problems in class, but you are welcome to come to my office, and we can go through the problems at your own pace.

Quizzes: There will be approximately 11 quizzes given on every Tuesday and Thursday. The problems on the quizzes will be VERY similar to problems from the assigned Homework. If you do the homework, the quizzes should be easy and quick to do. **WARNING:** If you do not do the homework problems, you will have a very difficult time finishing the quiz in the allotted time.

Exams: There will be no makeup exams. In the event that you miss an exam due to circumstances beyond your control, the final exam will count for a larger part of your grade. The final exam will be comprehensive with an emphasis on material covered after the last exam.

EXAM DATES:

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| Exam 1 | MON July 6th | Exam 3 | July 31st |
| Exam 2 | July 17th | Final | Aug 14th |

Grading: Your final grade will be based on the following distribution.

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| 10 Quizzes | 20 points each; lowest dropped | 200 points |
| 3 Exams | 100 points each | 300 points |
| 1 Final Exam | 150 points | 150 points |
| TOTAL | Maximum Possible | 650 points |

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| A | 598-650 |
| AB | 572-597 |
| B | 533-571 |
| BC | 507-532 |
| C | 455-506 |
| D | 390-454 |
| F | Below 390 |

Extra Credit: There will be NO opportunity to earn extra credit. If you need a C or better in this class you should try to build a comfortable margin before taking the final exam. If you need to practice on more problems or exercises, please see me.

Calculators: Calculators will not be necessary for this course. You will not be able to use them on the quizzes, exams, or on the final. Please try to do your homework without the assistance of a calculator.

Accommodation: Any student with a documented disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, or hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and the Disability Resource Services office (165 Murphy Library) at the beginning of the semester.