MATH 2312 PRECALCULUS

Prerequisites: MATH 1314 or placement into MATH 2312

Instructor: Prof. Joseph C. Loon

Lecture times and location: 9:00 am – 9:50 am MWF CS 114

Instructor: Prof. Joseph C. Loon Office hours: TR 11 am to 12:30 pm; and by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

A more rapid treatment of the material in MATH 1314 (College Algebra) and MATH 1316 (Trigonometry), this course is designed for students who wish a review of the above material, or who are not well prepared. Functions, graphs, trigonometry, and analytic geometry.

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES

At the end of the course the student should be able to:

1. Work with some basic concepts:
2. Solve equations and inequalities:
3. Graph functions and work with circular functions
4. Work with inverse functions and polynomials
5. Have a solid base in trigonometry and its applications

REQUIRED TEXT, ETC

Precalculus by Lial, Hornsby, Schneider, and Daniels. Pearson/Addison Wesley. 2009. 4th Edition

TI-83 or TI-84 calculator

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, ETC.

See attached sheets on "General Course Instructions"

GRADE

The final grade for this course will be made up from the graded marks as follows:

1. Three mid-term exams 45% of grade
2. Best 6 quizzes 20% of grade (15 minutes are allowed for each quiz)
3. Final Comprehensive Exam 30% of grade
4. Class attendance 5% of grade

Final comprehensive exam will be held on Monday 12th December, 2011 at 8:00am to 10:30 am
A TI 83 or TI-84 calculator will be allowed at all quizzes and exams

CHANGES MAY BE MADE BY THE INSTRUCTOR WITH PRIOR NOTICE GIVEN IN CLASS

Each mid semester exam will be based on ALL the course material covered up to the end of the class meeting prior to the exam

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date Quiz Sections Topics
1. Notice to Students with Disabilities: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical
impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

2. **Grade Appeal Process.** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

**GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR COURSES AND LABS**

**RUN BY PROF. JOSEPH C. LOON**

**IN THE MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT**

**CULTURE, REGULATIONS, MODES OF OPERATION AND PROCEDURES**

These guidelines are designed to inform scholars of their responsibilities and of the course requirements in order to make this course a positive experience. The instructor is always available for consultation and discussion with students on any aspect of a course and of these general guidelines.

**CLASS CULTURE**

1. Consider yourself as a scholar rather than a student. The term “student” may imply some passivity, whereas the term “scholar” implies active participation, understanding and searching. We will use these terms interchangeably with the meaning of “scholar” implied. Osmosis does not work in a learning environment!
2. Further, define yourself as a “thinking explorer”. You are responsible for your education; an instructor can only be a guide and a facilitator. An instructor cannot learn for you. If you come across something that really interests you, explore it further.
3. Your experience at this University should not consist of passing a series of courses to earn a degree. Your experience should rather be a series of activities that will give you an education.
4. Concentrate on “learning to learn”. You will have to be a life-long learner to survive in your chosen career.
5. There is no such thing as a stupid question; there is such a thing as a stupid answer. So ask questions, the instructor is taking all the risks! Ask questions of your instructor and of your fellow scholars. Many times questions are more important than answers.
6. Keep copious notes of all that is going on in all the meetings related to your course. Make a note of what the instructor is stressing. At the end of each lecture you should be able to answer two questions: **What did I learn from this lecture?** and **What was not clear to me?** At the
beginning of each lecture, if the instructor does not ask for questions, you need to ask if there is something you did not understand from the last lecture. Review, consolidate, annotate and organize your lecture/lab notes on a regular basis, at least once a week. The Internet is a tremendous resource and also a great danger. When you find information on the Internet, you have no idea if it is correct. View such information with caution. But, use the Internet to explore topics that interest you. Do not only prepare for the exam in a course – learn as much as you can on the topics introduced to you by the course material. You are responsible for the extent of your education!

7. In addition to details of the syllabus given in class, the syllabus for the course includes all the chapters of the required textbook/s unless indicated otherwise by the instructor. The student is responsible for all materials/topics covered in class, in handouts, in assignments, in labs, and in outings or field trips. The instructor is NOT responsible for informing absent students exactly what was covered in previous classes, meetings, etc.

8. By attending this class you agree to the following: to speak with intention; to listen with attention; to turn off/silence electronic devices; to treat others in the class with respect.

PROCEDURES & REGULATIONS

9. The final letter grade for the class will be based on the raw composite numerical score obtained from the weighted average of the tests, quizzes, exams, labs, etc. as indicated by the instructor. The raw composite numerical score may be adjusted (curved) based on the highest score, the statistical profile of the scores and other academic standards or other considerations. Generally the letter grade of A is 90% and over of the adjusted score, a B is between 80% and 89% (inclusive) of the adjusted score, a C is between 70% and 79% (inclusive) of the adjusted score, a D is below 70% of the adjusted score and an F is below 60% of the adjusted score. An incomplete (I) will only be given in very unusual circumstances. The University regulations on incomplete grades state: "An incomplete notation may be given to a student who is passing but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control other than the lack of time". Students are expected to take ALL tests, quizzes, exams, etc., and to complete and hand in all labs and other assignments. There is no provision for "extra credit". No final grades will be given via the telephone, e-mail, etc.

10. All University rules, regulations and expected student conduct apply to this course. Students are held responsible for the information given in the current Catalog and Student Handbook.

11. All assignments, etc. must be handed in on the assigned due date. Scholars having problems must notify the instructor well before the due date. Marks will be deducted for poor and sloppily presented work.

12. Assignments handed in after the due date may be subject to a penalty of loss of marks. Assignments handed in after the graded assignments, etc. have been returned to students will get zero marks but must be handed in to the instructor. Assignments will be returned to students, after they have been graded, at a class meeting. Students who miss this meeting will be able to collect graded work in the marked box outside the instructor’s office.

13. Scholars are asked to take special note of the penalties, which the University attaches to Academic Dishonesty. Consult the Student Handbook.

14. All work handed in to the instructor must be the student’s own work. Extracts, excerpts, etc. from the work of others must be suitably noted, acknowledged and properly referenced. Any Group Work will be judged in the same way. That is, it is the work of the group and the extracts,
excerpts, etc. of others must be acknowledged.

15. All written and graphical work handed in must be presented neatly printed and bound (staples are adequate). Students' written work will be judged on written communication skills, critical thinking and problem solving ability.

16. Students are expected to be present at all meetings (lectures, labs, etc.) of the class. Students are expected to be present at the date and time assigned for all tests, exams, quizzes, etc. There are NO provisions for making up missed exams except in cases where prior arrangements have been made and agreed to by the instructor. **5% of the final grade will be related to attendance at meetings.** Missing more than 3 (three) meetings without prior instructor approval will eliminate this part of the final grade.

17. All students must keep their university e-mail addresses. This will be the means of communication between the instructor and the class.

18. **All cellular phones** and other similar devices MUST BE TURNED OFF during lectures, labs and other class meetings including during examinations.

19. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the above with due notice to the students. These changes will be announced in class and each student is responsible for keeping herself/himself informed of such changes.