Instructor: Dr. Alexandra Nichifor (office: Padelford C-326)
E-mail: nichifor@math.washington.edu (please include “Math 120” in the subject line)

Class website: www.math.washington.edu/~nichifor/120F07.htm (updated weekly.)
Please read the links on this website first before emailing with questions.

(available from Professional Copy ‘N Print, 4200 University Way NE.)

Teaching Assistants (TAs):

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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>TA</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CA &amp; CB</td>
<td>Matthew Korson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mjkorson@math.washington.edu">mjkorson@math.washington.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CB &amp; CC</td>
<td>Michael Goff</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mgoff@math.washington.edu">mgoff@math.washington.edu</a></td>
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Welcome to Precalculus!
This course is designed to prepare you for college-level Calculus. It has two main goals: to give you a good handle on important Calculus prerequisites, and to help you develop the skills and stamina necessary to solve lengthy, multi-step problems.

Course Format: Lectures are on MWF at 11:30. You are responsible for knowing all that is presented in lecture, but you are not explicitly required to attend. On Tuesday and Thursday you meet with your TA listed above, according to the time and location listed in your time schedule.

Calculator: A calculator is required for this class. Any simple scientific calculator will suffice. A scientific calculator is one that, in addition to the basic operations, also has exponential and logarithmic function keys, as well as the trigonometric function keys.

Grades: Your grade will be made up of the following components ((*) = the lowest grade gets dropped):

- final exam = 40%
- 2 midterms, each =21% (total of 42%)
- homework = 12% (*)
- quizzes = 6% (*)

While the grades may be adjusted as a function of the class performance, the basic grading guidelines are: 4.0 corresponds to a total score of at least 93% of total points, 3.0~80%, 2.0~68%, 1.0~55%, 0~50% or below.

Office hours are times when you can speak to me or to any of the TAs without making an appointment - just drop by the specified location. Coming to office hrs is the best way to get your questions answered. Our office hours for this quarter will soon be announced and posted on the web page. It gets crowded during the exam weeks, so make sure to see us early when you have a question!

Homework (12%): In order to do well in this class, we advise you to study (read your text and lecture notes) and work on homework problems for about 15 hours a week outside of class. This is a lot of homework, but it is necessary in order to master the subject.

Homework will be assigned weekly in lecture and will usually be collected during Friday’s lecture (see the Schedule link on the class website). During the quiz sections labeled “Q&A” on the Schedule, your TA will answer your questions about the homework due next. To get the most out of your quiz section, please attempt the homework beforehand, and come prepared to ask about the harder parts.

Since the answers to most of the exercises are available to you, it is essential that you write out clear and complete solutions to all assigned problems, showing your work and the method used. No credit will be given if you do not show your work, even if the answer is correct.
Quizzes (6\%):
During four selected Tuesdays (listed in the class Schedule), you will take a 20 minute quiz, consisting of one or two problems relating to the previous week’s material (similar to those done in class, in the homework, or to the textbook examples).

PLEASE NOTE: Late assignments will not be accepted for any reason. Instead:
1. You are allowed to miss one quiz AND one homework assignment for any reason, without penalty to your grade, to account for unexpected problems (car breakdown, family issues, minor illness, etc.)
2. If you already used your “free drop” and you have a serious, unavoidable and documented reason for another absence (such as prolonged illness, military duties, or university sponsored athletic events), talk to the professor as soon as you can. You will need to provide official documentation for your missed assignment or quiz date.

Exam dates:

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<th>Exam</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>Thursday, October 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>Thursday, November 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Saturday, December 8, 5-8pm</td>
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Exam Rules:
- You are allowed a handwritten 8.5 x 11 sheet of notes (double-sided OK), and a calculator. No other electronic devices are allowed, and you cannot share your notes or calculator.
- To get full credit, always write down complete solutions, including clear pictures (if appropriate), so the grader can determine which method you used, and see all the steps that led to your answer. Answers with incomplete or missing work (say, read on a calculator or done only in your head) will not receive full credit, even if the answer happens to be correct. We are testing your problem-solving skills, not just the final answer.
- Make-up midterms will not be given. If you have to miss an exam due to unavoidable, compelling, and well-documented circumstances, contact the professor ASAP with the documentation and your final exam will be weighted more heavily.
- The Final exam is common for all Math 120 sections, and will be held on Saturday, December 8. If you need to take the makeup final exam instead, you will need to file a petition with the Math Department (to be announced later). Exceptions are only granted by the math department for serious, unavoidable, and documented reasons.

Useful Resources:
- The Math Study Center (Communications B-014) is open to students in MATH 120. The MSC provides a supportive place for students to come together and study, in groups or individually. More details are on the class webpage, under the “MSC” link.
- The Student Counseling Center offers individual counselors and academic skills workshops on a variety of topics including stress management, test anxiety, and test-taking skills to help you succeed at the University of Washington. If any of these is an issue for you, check out the schedule of workshops at: http://depts.washington.edu/counsels/services/workshops/workshopstudy.html
- UW is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request any disability accommodation, contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at: 206-543-6450/V, 206-543-6452/TTY, 206-685-7264 (FAX), or dso@u.washington.edu.