MATH 120-B: PRECALCULUS, AUTUMN 2018

Instructor: Dr. Jonah Ostroff, Padelford C-328, `ostroff@uw.edu`

TA, Sections BA and BB: Yiping Hu, `huypken@uw.edu`

TA, Sections BC and BD: Cody Tipton, `cat1184@uw.edu`

COURSE DESCRIPTION. This is a problem-solving course designed to prepare you for the calculus sequence. We'll cover a large amount of material. You have likely seen much of the content before, but many topics will be new. The course is meant to train you to deal with long and difficult problems, so even when the concepts are familiar, the problems may still be challenging.

CLASS TIMES. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:30 AM – 11:20 AM, Anderson 223.

TEXTBOOK. *Precalculus* by D.H. Collingwood, K.D. Prince, and M.M. Conroy. You can purchase a (rather inexpensive) printed copy from the UW Book Store, or download it for free from the Math 120 website:

> `http://www.math.washington.edu/~m120/TheBook/TB2016.pdf`

GRADES. Your grade in the course will be based on the following:

  5% **Test prep attendance**
 10% **Homework**
 20% **Lower midterm score**
 30% **Better midterm score**
 35% **Final exam**

The class is graded on a curve, and the median will be 3.0.

LECTURES. Lectures are held on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. You are required to know all the material presented in lecture, but you are not explicitly required to attend. You can read the notes online if you miss class, but it may be hard to follow along without seeing the lecture in person.

HOMEWORK. This course is about problem-solving skills. By far the best way to improve is by *doing*, not *watching*, so homework is crucial. It's also the most time-consuming part of the course, so please plan accordingly.

   In general, homework assigned Monday will be due on Thursday evening, and homework assigned Wednesday or Friday will be due on the following Tuesday evening. The first few homework assignments have a slightly longer window.

   Homework will be submitted online through WebAssign:

> `https://www.webassign.net/washington/login.html`

After a two-week grace period at the start of the quarter, you'll need an access code to use WebAssign. See the course website for instructions on how to purchase one.

   Most of the problems on WebAssign are too complicated to solve in your head, so you'll want to use scratch paper to work out the answers. Use this time to practice staying organized as you solve problems, so you're ready for the exams.

   Late homework will not be accepted, but you may miss a total of 10% of the homework points over the course of the quarter without affecting your final grade.

QUIZ SECTIONS. Quiz sections will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Most of the quiz sections will be spent discussing homework problems, so you should come prepared with questions. On most Thursdays (starting in the second week), part of the time will be used on practice problems from old exams. These problems will not be graded, but attendance is required and will be part of your final grade.

EXAMS. There will be two midterm exams and one final exam.
- Exam 1: Thursday, October 18th (during quiz section). [Probably Chapters 1–7.]
- Exam 2: Thursday, November 15th (during quiz section). [Probably Chapters 1–16.]
- Final Exam: Saturday, December 8th, 5:00 PM–7:50 PM, in Kane 130.

Exams are cumulative, although the second midterm will primarily be focused on material from after the first midterm. Makeups will not be given. If an unavoidable conflict arises, contact me *immediately*.

You may use a TI-30X IIS scientific calculator (available for $15 at the bookstore) on exams. *Graphing* calculators and other electronic devices are not permitted.

You may also bring a *single*, *hand-written*, double-sided 8.5" × 11" sheet of notes for the exam.

OFFICE HOURS. I've got a few office hours per week. You can always drop by Padelford C-328 during this time without making an appointment. If my normal office hours don't work for you, send me an email and we can find another time to meet. Note that these office hours are shared with my Math 126 class.

Mondays, 2:00 − 4:00 PM
Tuesdays, 1:00 − 3:00 PM
Thursdays, 2:00 − 4:00 PM

WEBSITES. All of this information is also available at the course website:
`www.math.washington.edu/~ostroff/courses/2018/math120-aut18`
You'll find lecture notes, Panopto recordings, all course materials, and a class discussion board (through Piazza), which is a great place to ask questions. For more general information about Math 120, you can use the department's resource page:
`http://www.math.washington.edu/~m120/`

OTHER RESOURCES. The Math Study Center (B-014 in the Communications building) is open 9:30 AM–9:30 PM on Monday–Thursday, 9:30 AM–1:30 PM on Friday, and 2:00 PM–6:00 PM on Sunday. Other resources include CLUE and the IC. If you'd like more one-on-one tutoring, the Math Department maintains a list of local private tutors that you can hire at `http://www.math.washington.edu/Undergrad/tutorlists.php`.

ACADEMIC HONESTY. I take cheating very seriously, and will report any instances to the department of Community Standards and Student Conduct, and give zeroes accordingly.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request 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.