MATH 1113: Precalculus Section 8484 (Online Course), Fall 2014

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Students enrolled in online courses through the School of Computing and Mathematics may be required to take one or more proctored exams per semester. Please go to http://www.proctoru.com/gsw/ for more information. GSW will cover the cost of the proctored exams. However, students will be responsible for paying convenience fees for scheduling less than 72 hours prior to the test.

NOTICE: Each enrolled student should read the instructions about GeorgiaView and check that the student’s computer meets the System and Software Requirements based on information from the website https://gsw.edu/GeorgiaVIEW/index

Please use the internal GeorgiaView course e-mail for general correspondence. I provide my external e-mail address for emergencies only. I cannot answer questions, accept assignments, or discuss grades via external e-mail or over the phone so please use it for emergencies only.

Students should log onto the class at least every day Monday through Friday to work on the course and get assignments and announcements. In addition, lessons, online quizzes, and tests must be completed according to the course schedule.

Note that the course is not self-paced.


Course Description: This course is designed to prepare students for calculus, physics, and related technical subjects. Topics include an intensive study of algebraic, trigonometric, and transcendental functions accompanied by analytic geometry.

General Information: The prerequisite for the course is four years of high school mathematics including two years of algebra. Though parts of this course will serve as a review of algebra skills from your earlier mathematics courses, we will cover a relatively large amount of material. If your algebra skills are weak or if you let yourself fall behind in your studies, the pace may seem rapid at times. In this case, you may need to spend considerably more than the minimum of NINE (9) hours (including the time of studying the lecture notes) per week of study for this course.

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will have acquired knowledge of or become more proficient with:

- Types of Functions (Evaluation, Graphing, Root Finding, and Applications)
- Linear and Quadratic Functions
- Compositions of Functions
- Polynomial and Rational Functions
• Inverse Functions
• Trigonometric Functions and their inverses
• Exponential Functions and their inverses (Logarithmic Functions)
• Conic Sections, Polar Coordinates, and Parametric Equations (will be covered as time permits)

Calculator Information: It is currently the policy of the mathematics department at Georgia Southwestern that a TI-83/TI-83+/TI-84+ calculator is required for mathematics courses numbered 2222 and below.

Grading: There will be eleven (11) online quizzes with each worth 10 points. One quiz will be proctored. (The date of the proctored quiz will be announced later.) You should check the Course News to determine the time at which the quizzes will be made available. Each quiz is only available on the dates and the time periods as stated in the course Calendar. If you do not take the quiz during the specified time period(s), you will receive a grade of zero for that quiz. For each unproctored quiz, you may use your books and notes but not any other person. For the proctored quiz and the final test, you are only allowed a half-page formula sheet (letter size paper, one-sided), several blank scratch paper, and a permitted calculator.

The lowest score of the quizzes will be dropped. No make-up quiz will be allowed.

The comprehensive online final test (worth 20 points) will be proctored and scheduled on TBA. If you do not take the exam on the date listed in the calendar, you will receive a grade of zero for the exam. No make-up exam will be allowed.

The problems in the quizzes and the exam will be related or similar to the examples discussed in the lecture notes and the textbook. My past experiences have shown that if a student does not spend enough time and efforts reading the lecture notes or the corresponding book sections as suggested in the lecture notes for each lesson, there is no chance that the student will perform well in the quizzes or the final test.

Working on the suggested homework problems provides helpful practice and good preparation for your success in each quiz or test.

To determine your course grade, I will total your points (with the lowest score of the quizzes dropped) and convert the total to percentage.

A:90%-100%, B:80%-89%, C:70%-79%, D:60%-69%, F: below 59%

The total possible points for this Precalculus course is 120 (100 from quizzes, and 20 from the final exam). So, for example, if your total is 110, noting that 110/120=0.9167=91.67%, your course grade will be an “A”; if your total is 90, your course grade will be a “C”, since 90/120=0.75=75%.

There is NO extra credit work.

The quiz or test formats look like the following. You are usually given 5 to 10 questions for a quiz and you have forty minutes to work on that after you start the quiz. The final exam may include 10 to 20 questions, and the duration for the final exam is 100 minutes. Some questions will be multiple-choice, and for some others, you need to submit an answer based on your calculations.
A sample instruction is as follows. **The dates below are for illustration purpose, which do not mean the current dates.**

Available starting: January 6, 2011 7:00 AM  
Available until: January 7, 2011 3:00 PM  
Duration: 40 minutes  
**Note:** your completion time is measured from when you click **Begin Assessment** to when you click **Finish**.  
Once the allotted time has expired, you will not be able to save any more questions.  
**Question delivery:** All at once  
**Note:** questions can be answered in any order. You can revisit questions after you have answered them.  
Attempts allowed: 1 or 2

**You are only allowed one attempt for the proctored quiz and the final test.** For each unproctored quiz, you may be allowed two (2) attempts. **Students are strongly encouraged to make use of the two attempts**, especially, if you are not confident of some of your work. After your first attempt, you know what difficulty you have for the assessment. You may read the book or the lecture notes to re-work on the relevant stuffs before the second attempt. For each of your attempts, the questions or **the numbers** involved may be **somewhat different**. **You will need to re-work on each question.** The grade of each assessment is the higher one of your two attempts.

And, for each assessment, you need to follow the instructions for the questions. If you are asked to round your answer to 3 decimal places, you need to round your answer to EXACTLY 3 decimal places. Otherwise you get 0 point for that question. Similar requirements apply when you are asked to find an integer or round your answer to 1 or 2 decimal places.

**Last Day to Withdraw From Class Without Academic Penalty:** October 24, 2014

**Academic Misconduct:** Any violation of the GSW Policy on Academic Integrity will be treated very seriously. Any form of unauthorized assistance on graded work will result in a grade of zero and a report to the Academic Dean. A second offense will result a grade of **F** for the class and referral to the judicial system. You may find details of this policy in the GSW Bulletin online:  
[http://www.gsw.edu/academics/bulletin/contents/reg.htm](http://www.gsw.edu/academics/bulletin/contents/reg.htm)

**Homework and Reading:** Homework will be assigned in each (online) lecture. Although homework will not be collected, your homework will be evaluated by your performance on the quizzes. Reading the sections of the textbook corresponding to the assigned homework exercises is considered part of the homework assignment. You should make every effort to complete the homework assignments and seek help with problems you have not been able to solve.

As a general guideline, for a regular in-classroom session, you should spend a **MINIMUM** of approximately two hours working on the course material for each hour of class time. This means that for this online class, you should spend a **MINIMUM of NINE hours per week** working on
the course material. Students who make an effort to keep up with the course progress are considerably more likely to perform well on examinations.

Disabilities: A student requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must notify me within the first two weeks of the semester. If the student has not already done so, he or she must contact the Office of Disability Services in order to receive these accommodations and modifications. The Office of Disability Services is located in Sanford Hall, room 101, and the phone number is 229-931-2661.

Other Information:
You are usually given a more-than-30-hour duration to start any quiz or test. You should start working on each quiz early when it becomes available. Please also remember that you have to complete each quiz within forty minutes (the final test within 100 minutes) after you start it. It is never a good idea to start your work only during the last few hours. I won’t accept any excuse for a missing quiz or test.

An important thing is that when you are working on the quiz questions, no matter it is your 1st attempt or 2nd attempt, you need to write down the quiz questions and your work for any of your attempts, especially if you want to discuss the quiz questions with me. The reason for that is after each quiz (or test), the question set simply disappears, you will not see the question set again. You need to have your own records or notes of each quiz or test. You have forty minutes to work on each quiz, and should have enough time to write down the details for each question, in addition to your solutions or computations.

Some student emailed me through GerogiaView email on one quiz last summer, when he/she opened the problem page, for one problem, some words or number was missing, or appeared as a blank part. My suggestion is to click the problem page back and forth to see if all the information will occur, but be sure to save all your previous answers before you do that. If you cannot have this issue resolved, you should complete your 2nd attempt at my office during the quiz available period. There is no exception.