

Course Outline

MATH 120 (Precalculus), Section A02, Fall 2010

Course Description:

This course presents the topics necessary for entry into calculus courses. The student is introduced to various fundamental concepts and equipped with the necessary skills, understanding and insights required to succeed in calculus. The course prerequisite is Principles of Math 11 or its equivalent, and it is assumed that students have algebra skills at the level of Alg 11, Math 11 or higher. Course content includes the following: introduction to graphs and functions; polynomial and rational functions; trigonometric functions; exponential and logarithmic functions.

Instructor:

Stephen Benecke
Office: SSM A453
Office Hours: TWF 1:30 - 2:30
Phone: 250-853-3291
Email: stephen.benecke@gmail.com

Students are encouraged to approach the instructor if they wish to discuss any aspect of the course, either during office hours, drop in or by appointment.

Assistance Centre:

If the instructor is unavailable and you need assistance, you may go to the Mathematics Assistance Centres which are located in Room A202 in the Social Sciences and Mathematics (SSM) building, and in the C.W. Lui Learning Commons in the main Library. Hours of operation for the Mathematics Assistance Centres will be announced on the department website (<http://www.math.uvic.ca>, Assistance Centre). These hours are subject to change. It is staffed by able mathematics graduate students who are paid to help you.

Review:

It is important for you to understand that, for most people, mathematical skill deteriorates rapidly when it is not used. You should work through sections A.1, A.2, A.3, and A.4 in Appendix A, which review some of the material with which you will need to be adept. You are expected to know and understand everything in these Appendices. If necessary, work through as many of the problems at the ends of these sections as you can and certainly work all the odd numbered problems. Have this completed before the end of the first week of classes.

Timetable:

Meetings occur for a total of 4 hours per week, with tutorials on Tuesdays (as indicated below). The first lecture is on Thursday, September 9, and the last lecture is on Thursday, December 2. The first tutorial is on Tuesday, September 14, and the last tutorial is on Tuesday, November 30.

Lecture Timetable:

Day	Time	Venue
Tuesday	4:30 - 5:20	COR B107
Thursday	4:30 - 6:20	COR B107

Tutorial Timetable:

Day	Time	Venue
Tuesday	5:30 - 6:20	COR B107

Course Material:

The following textbook will be used throughout this course:

M. Dugopolski, *Fundamentals of Precalculus* (2nd ed), Addison Wesley, 2008 [ISBN 0-321-50697-9].

References will be made to the second edition, which is available in the Bookstore. However, students can use the first edition which differs little from the second edition.

Students are **only** allowed to use the **Sharp EL-510-R** calculator. **No other calculators will be allowed during examinations.** These calculators may be purchased in the UVic Bookstore.

Course Webpage:

Students are encouraged to visit the course webpage on a regular basis. Besides the fact that the homework assignments will be posted here, it is also a useful tool to convey important information regarding the course and it is expected that students visit the course webpage regularly. The page is also accessible through the Department website, under "Course Pages", or through the instructor's temporary website at <http://www.math.uvic.ca/~stephen/index.html>.

Suggested Exercises:

Suggested Exercises will be made available on the website and announced in class as the corresponding material is covered. **It is the student's responsibility to master all of these exercises and to seek assistance when needed.**

Course Assessment:

There will be two midterm tests on the dates shown below. Each of these tests contributes 15% to the final grade. Note that these tests are cumulative and may cover concepts previously tested. In addition, assignments will be presented throughout the term. The assignments contribute a total of 10% to the final grade. The final examination contributes 60% to the final grade.

Assessment Opportunity	Percentage
Test 1 (Oct 8)	15%
Test 2 (Nov 26)	15%
Assignments	10%
Final (TBA)	60%

Once marked, midterm tests will be returned in class, or may be claimed during office hours. There will be no make-up tests. If a student misses a test due to reasons in accordance with the regulation on Illness, Accident or Family Affliction, the instructor should be notified as soon as possible. A written request to be excused, as well as the relevant

supporting documentation, should be submitted within 7 calendar days after the test date. In such cases the final exam score will be used to assign a score for the missed test. There will be no supplemental examinations for this course.

Students are strongly advised to **not** make final plans for travel or employment during the exam period, since special arrangements will not be made for examinations that may conflict with such plans.

Questions or concerns regarding graded test or assignment papers should be brought to the attention of the instructor within 7 calendar days of the date when it was returned.

The nature of what you will be expected to do on the tests and final examination is largely defined by the Suggested Exercises and in-class examples.

Students are **only** allowed to use the **Sharp EL-510-R** calculator. **No other calculators will be allowed during examinations.** Students are not allowed to have in their possession during a test any paper other than what is provided to you by the invigilators. Candidates found communicating with one another in any way, or having unauthorized books, papers, or communication devices such as cell phones and PDA's in their possession, will be considered in violation of the University Policy on Academic Integrity.

Assignments:

There will be 5 Homework Assignments presented throughout the course, according to the schedule below. These assignments test the student's understanding of the various concepts and his/her ability to answer various questions based on the course material. The assignments will be made available on the course webpage according to the schedule below. The assignments are to be handed in at the start of the session in which they are due.

Note that late assignments will not be accepted.

Minitab Assignment	Available	Due
Assignment 1	Tuesday, September 14	Tuesday, September 28
Assignment 2	Tuesday, September 28	Tuesday, October 12
Assignment 3	Tuesday, October 26	Tuesday, November 9
Assignment 4	Tuesday, November 9	Tuesday, November 23
Assignment 5	Friday, December 2	Friday, December 10

Solutions to the assignments will be posted on the course webpage according to the above schedule. Students are encouraged to check the website regularly for updates.

Test Dates:

The two midterm tests will take place during normal lecture sessions on the following predetermined dates. Students will be allowed 90 minutes to complete the test.

- Test 1: Tuesday, October 19, 4:30 - 6:00 COR B107
- Test 2: Tuesday, November 30, 4:30 - 6:00 COR B107

Final Examination:

The final examination will be scheduled by Records Services to occur during the formal examination period. The date and time of this examination will be posted on official University Bulletin Boards at least two weeks before the beginning of the formal examination period. Students must write the final examination on the date and time published by Records Services unless they qualify for a deferred examination as outlined in the UVic Calendar.

Departmental Grading Policy for Multi-Sectioned Courses:

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics has adopted the following policy in order to provide equity in grading in its multi-section courses:

The distribution of grades assigned in each section of a multi-section course must be consistent with the distribution of letter-grades achieved by the section on the final examination, or on the common portion of the final examination. This rule must be applied with enough flexibility to permit assigning the same grade to students in the same section who have attained the same Course Score, but with enough rigidity to guard against grade inflation or deflation.

Students are expected to read the detailed explanation of how this policy is implemented by visiting the Department of Mathematics website (<http://www.math.uvic.ca>) and then click on Course Policies and then Multi-Section Grading Policy, or by picking up a hard copy of Explanation of the Multi-section Grading Policy of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from the Department Office, SSM A425.

The following scale is customarily used to convert numerical scores to final letter grades: (The Department reserves the right to modify this conversion scale.):

Letter grade	Percentage
A+	90 – 100%
A	85 – 89%
A-	80 – 84%
B+	75 – 79%
B	70 – 74%
B-	65 – 69%
C+	60 – 64%
C	55 – 59%
D	50 – 54%
F	0 – 49%

Students are expected to attend all lectures and the course will be conducted on that basis.

This document is prepared several weeks before the beginning of classes. It is possible that some of the information in it will have to be modified as the term progresses. Any such changes will be announced in class and the web version of this document will be updated. If you miss such an announcement because you did not attend class, you must accept the consequences of not having learned of the change.