

MATH 41-64
Precalculus I – Theory of Functions

Instructor: Paul Du, PhD
E-mail: dupaul@fhda.edu
Class Communication Tool: *My Courses / Course Studio* at MyPortal.fhda.edu

Class: TTh, 6:30 PM – 8:45 PM, Room E33
Office Hours: T 2:50 PM – 3:50 PM, Room S43

Prerequisite: Mathematics 114 with a grade of C or better or equivalent; or a satisfactory score on the College Level Math Placement Test within the last calendar year.

Textbook: *Precalculus with Limits*, Ron Larson, Second Edition, 2011, Brooks/Cole.

Calculator: The use of a graphing calculator for exploring concepts is encouraged in this course, but graphing calculators will not be allowed on exams or quizzes. A non-graphing, scientific calculator may be used on exams and quizzes. Cell phone calculators will not be allowed on exams or quizzes.

Course Description: This course, together with Math 42 and Math 43, is designed to prepare students for the study of calculus. Topics include polynomial functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions. Conceptual understanding and problem solving will be emphasized throughout the course.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Investigate, evaluate, and differentiate between algebraic and transcendental functions in their graphic, formulaic, and tabular representations.
2. Synthesize, model, and communicate real-life applications and phenomena using algebraic and transcendental functions.

Workload: Students should plan on spending a minimum of 10 hours outside of class per week reading the textbook, solving homework problems, and preparing for the exams. Students who choose not to commit the necessary time and effort will be unlikely to be successful in this course.

Homework and Reading: Homework will be assigned for each covered section of the textbook. Reading the textbook section corresponding to the assigned homework problems is considered part of the homework assignment. Homework will not be collected; instead, your homework will be evaluated through regular quizzes. It is crucial to complete all the assigned homework problems in a timely manner.

Classwork: There will be occasional in-class assignments which may involve group work. The dates for classwork will be unannounced. **There will be no make-up classwork.**

Quizzes: There will be six (6) quizzes given during the quarter. Quiz problems will be similar to (or taken directly from) the homework assignments. You should make every effort to complete the homework assignments and seek help with problems you find difficult solving. The lowest quiz score will be dropped at the end of the quarter. **There will be no make-up quizzes.**

Midterm Exams: There will be three (3) midterm exams given during the quarter. The lowest midterm exam score will be replaced by the final exam score, if the latter is higher. **There will be no make-up midterm exams.**

Final Exam: A mandatory comprehensive final exam will be given at the end of the quarter. You may bring one (double-sided) 8.5" × 11" sheet of handwritten notes to the final exam. **Any student who misses the final exam will receive a grade of F for the course.**

Grading Criteria:

Classwork	5%	90 – 100% = A	0 – 59% = F
Quizzes	20%	80 – 89% = B	
Midterm Exams	45%	70 – 79% = C	
Final Exam	30%	60 – 69% = D	

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all classes, to be on time and to stay for the entire class period. Any student who misses more than one (1) class during the first two weeks or more than three (3) classes during the quarter may be dropped by the instructor. Please note that it is the student’s responsibility to officially drop or withdraw from the course if the student decides not to attend any longer. Failure to do so may result in a grade of F for the course.

Academic Honesty: Students are responsible for keeping themselves informed of the College policy on academic integrity (www.deanza.edu/studenthandbook/). Cheating will not be tolerated and can result in receiving a zero on the quiz/exam or an F for the course and being reported to the Dean of Students for possible disciplinary action.

Extra Help: The Math and Science Tutorial Center (S43) offers free individual and group tutoring. Please take advantage of these free services. Tutorial assistance often means the difference between students earning a passing or failing grade. Do not hesitate to come to my office hours to discuss a homework problem or any aspect of the course.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Disability Support Services (DSS) provides support services for students with disabilities. For more information or to make an appointment to request services, contact DSS at 408-864-8753.

Important Dates:

Last day to drop with no record of gradeMonday, January 19
Last day to drop with a “W”Friday, February 27