

TAMS Precalculus

Math 1650.623, Fall 2008, MTWRF 10:00-10:50, GAB 206

Professor: Dr. Conley, GAB 419, (940) 565-3326, conley@unt.edu. Assignments and announcements will be posted at www.math.unt.edu/~conley.

Office Hours: MTWR 11-12.

Text: The text is *Precalculus*, fifth edition, by Stewart, Redlin, and Watson.

Grading: There is a total of 800 points possible: the homework is 150 points, each of the three hour exams is 150 points, and the final is 200 points.

The Curve: Your letter grade will be determined by a curve that will depend on average exam scores. It will not be higher than the standard 90-80-70-60 curve, in fact it usually works out to around 75-65-55-45 in my classes. After each exam I will tell you your current letter grade.

Exams: The final exam is on Tuesday, Dec. 9, 8:00-10:00. It will be comprehensive. The three midterms are all on Tuesdays: Sept. 16, Oct. 14, and Nov. 11. The class just before each midterm will be a review. There will be no make-up exams.

Homework: There will be approximately 30 problem sets, worth 5 points each, usually due at the beginning of class on Tuesdays and Fridays (see over for exact due dates). They will be posted on the web site. You must show your work for all problems; it is not enough simply to write the answer.

Homework is due when you come to class. If it is messy or unstapled or you are late to class, you will lose one point. Homework will not be accepted at the end of class or later. *Any homework scores below 2 will be reported to the academic counselor.*

Collaboration: You may work on the problem sets together with your friends, but the best way to prepare for the exams is to begin by trying them on your own. I suggest the following approach: first, do the problems you have no trouble with on scratch paper. Second, spend as much time as possible trying to crack the ones you got stuck on. (This is the time when you will be learning the most mathematics!) Third, work with your friends on those you still cannot do. Last, recopy all your solutions neatly and turn them in.

Calculators: Calculators are not allowed during exams. They are allowed for homework but usually you will not need them. I suggest that you do not use them, because it is best to do the homework in the same way you will have to do the exams.

Tutoring: TAMS seniors offer tutoring at the "Mathlab in McConnel", Sunday-Thursday 7-9. Talk to the academic counselor if you need further help.

Attendance: Required. More than five unexcused absences may lower your grade.

Cell Phones: Any type of use during class (including ringing) costs 2 points.

Email to me: Overly informal messages will not be read: use decent capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling.

Cheating: First offense: zero on that exam. Second: F for the course.

Disabled Students: Please give me the ODS documents right away.