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Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays: 5:45 – 6:15 PM  
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 4:45 – 6:15 PM  
Online office hour: Sunday 8 AM – 9 AM

TEXTBOOK

The textbook for this course is *Precalculus*, Sixth Edition by Stewart, Redlin, and Watson. Bring your book to class; we will be working problems from the book in class. **Read the textbook.** I do not necessarily cover in class all the material for which you are responsible, so you must read the textbook. In addition to the textbook, you will need a cheap ($10 - $15) scientific calculator. More details will be given in class.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is taken at every class meeting. Regular attendance is necessary for optimum performance. Each class will begin and end at the time scheduled. Being late and/or attempting to leave early is rude and disruptive to the class. Not only should you be physically present during the class but you should be ready to learn. Students are responsible for all information given in class (changes in homework, test dates, etc.) and all material covered in class, even if they were absent from class. Any student missing more than 2 class meetings risks being dropped from the class.

OFFICE HOURS

My office hours are listed at the top of this page. These are times when I can give you individual attention. This time can be used to work tricky homework problems, explain difficult topics, discuss course progress, or address other course concerns.

EXAMS

There will be 4 big exams. The tentative dates for the exams are Feb. 13, March 27, April 17, and May 15. If you miss an exam, you may take a make-up near the end of the semester, at a date and time of the INSTRUCTOR’S convenience.
PROJECTS
There will be a number of projects or extra homework handouts distributed through out the semester. These will be collected and graded. I will count the highest 9 project scores in your grade.

HOMEWORK
Math is not a spectator sport. Homework assignments will be given for each section covered. It is assumed that you have completed the homework problems by the class session after the one in which the material was presented. Homework problems are not usually discussed in class. If you have questions about the homework, come and see me during office hours. That is the purpose of office hours. Homework assignments from the text are not generally collected or graded.

EXTRA CREDIT
It is possible to earn extra credit points by correcting mathematical errors committed by the professor during lectures or on handouts (if you are the first to catch the error and do so in a timely manner). In addition, a few extra credit projects may be offered. These are not required and not doing them will not adversely affect your grade.

GRADING
Each exam is worth 135 points. The projects will be worth a total of 135 points. There will be 675 points possible for the entire semester. At the end of the semester the grading scale will be:

- 90% - 100% A
- 80% - 89% B
- 70% - 79% C
- 60% - 69% D
- 0% - 59% F

TUTORING
The Mathematics Study Center is located in MBA 119. (The Computer Lab is next door in MBA 115.) Tutors are available there. The tutors can help you best if you have tried to work the problems and have specific questions. You are encouraged to seek out extra help whenever necessary in the tutoring room. Many students routinely work on their homework in the tutoring room, asking for help from the tutors when (and if) they need it.

Tutoring is also available on other areas of campus (for free) or from private tutors (for money). If you qualify, EOPS provides tutoring. There is also tutoring in the Learning Resource Center in the campus library. Private tutors
advertise in various locations on campus. I have no idea of the quality or expense of these tutors. I personally would not use them until I had tried all of the free help which is available.

OTHER HELP

The campus bookstore (as well as other bookstores) has an assortment of supplementary books on math. There are books on solving word problems, books on general study habits, and books specific to math at the precalculus level. I have not read all of these books and so can not tell you which are useful and which are not, but you can probably tell something about them after thumbing through them for a few minutes.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with disabilities who believe they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Special Resource Center on campus as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion. Guidelines for students with disabilities can be found on p. 27 of 2013-2014 College Catalog or may refer to www.elcamino.edu/academics/src

MISCELLANY

Please turn off cell phones while you are in class. If you absolutely must have your phone turned on, set it to vibrate instead of ring. Do not answer your phone in the classroom. On the days of the big exams be prepared to sit for 2 1/2 hours. Please plan ahead; bathroom breaks (during exams) are not allowed except in case of illness.

CATALOG DESC.

This course includes a study of algebraic, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions; an introduction to the algebra of matrices; sequence and series; an introduction to analytic geometry; and applications.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The following 14 goals are the course objectives for Math 180, taken from the official course outline. The material for which you will be responsible this semester will include, but not be limited to, the items in this list.

1. Manipulate and simplify complex numbers and algebraic expressions at the Precalculus level.
2. Factor polynomials and find the zeroes of polynomial functions using polynomial division and the Factor Theorem.
3. Solve algebraic, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric equations, and equations with absolute value.
4. Solve quadratic and rational inequalities and inequalities with absolute value.
5. Graph algebraic, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions.
7. Solve problems using matrices and determinants.
8. Evaluate trigonometric functions and their inverses.
9. Solve problems and verify trigonometric identities using the sum, difference, double-angle and half-angle formulas.
10. Sketch functions in polar and parametric form.
11. Solve problems involving arithmetic and geometric sequences and series.
12. Solve application problems at the Precalculus level.
13. Use Mathematical Induction to write proofs.
14. Use technology (graphing or scientific calculators and/or computer software) to solve problems.

SLOs

The following 4 goals are the student learning outcomes for Math 180. They are a representative (not exhaustive) sample of the things you will be expected to be able to do upon your successful completion of this course.

1. **UNDERSTANDING CONCEPTS** Students will explain and demonstrate basic precalculus concepts by solving equations, inequalities and systems involving algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and absolute value expressions.

2. **SOLVING PROBLEMS** Students will use polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric equations and functions to set up and solve application and modeling problems.

3. **GRAPHS** Students will create, interpret and analyze the graphs of polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, parametric, polar and conic equations.

4. **PROOFS** Students will analyze and construct proofs, including proofs by induction.

Academic Honesty

*El Camino College places a high value on the integrity of its student scholars. When an instructor determines that there is evidence of dishonesty in any academic work (including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, or theft of exam materials), disciplinary action appropriate to the misconduct as defined in BP 5500 may be taken. A failing grade on an assignment in which academic dishonesty has occurred and suspension from class are among the disciplinary actions for academic dishonesty (AP 5520). Students with any questions about the Academic Honesty or discipline policies are encouraged to speak with their instructor in advance.*