

TMATH 120

Fall Term 2012

UH 10:20am-12:25pm JOY 110
Lecturer: Ruth Vanderpool
Office Hours: Tue 12:25-12:55pm
Thu 10:05-10:20pm
By Appointment

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Course Description: MATH 120 is a pre-calculus course intended to prepare you for calculus. To this end we will introduce the concept of a function, its notation, and then work with polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and inverse trigonometric functions. Note, to progress to MATH 124 you need to obtain a 2.0.

Student Learning Objectives: By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. apply algebraic concepts in the precalculus setting to solve problems
2. read, interpret, identify, and generate graphs of elementary functions
3. create linear, quadratic, polynomial, or exponential functions to describe common behaviors in business and the sciences
4. use properties of logs and exponents to answer questions
5. understand how to use trigonometry (trigonometric functions, inverse-trigonometric functions, identities, Law of Sines & Law of Cosines) to solve problems.

The course supports the following department Student Learning Objectives:

- (Env. Sci.) *Cultivate skills critical to interpreting scientific concepts for public understanding, including familiarity with the scientific method, information literacy, statistical data analysis, hypothesis formulation, and conceptual modeling, research project design and working collaboratively.*
- (Env. Sci.) *Participate in engaged inquiry as a means of connection classroom learning to real-world environmental problem solving and establishing the skills needed for life-long learning.*
- (Env. Sci) *Develop advanced scientific skills necessary to achieve an understanding of and solutions to environmental problems including physical and biological measurement techniques, statistical data analysis, hypothesis formulation and conceptual modeling, research project design and working collaboratively.*
- (PPE) *Students will strengthen their analytic skills*
- (PPE) *Students will develop their ability to write with style and precision.*
- (PPE) *Students will become more competent with quantitative analysis.*
- (PPE) *Student will develop their ethical and logical reasoning.*

Useful Items:

- Text: *Precalculus Enhanced WebAssign Edition, 5th Ed.* by J. Stewart, L. Redlin, & S. Watson. ISBN #: 9780495557500
Resources for purchasing the text are posted on the class website.
- Calculators: Either scientific or graphing are welcome although no internet access is allowed during quizzes and exams.

Important Dates:

10/18	Exam I	9/30	Last day alter your schedule with no fees
11/8	Exam II	10/5	Last day to add a class
12/13	Final (10:20-12:25pm)	11/18	Last day to change grading option

Homework Policy:

Two homework assignments will be posted every week on WebAssign. One assignment will be due at 8pm on *Wednesday* and the second will be due at 8pm *Friday*. Each assignment will be announced in class and posted on the calendar (found on the class website <http://faculty.washington.edu/rvanderp/>). *Notice that these assignments are due on days that the class does not meet.* Each time we meet ten minutes will be set aside to answer homework questions from the online system. To make the best use of this period I advise you to copy down the questions you have and bring them to class. Note that sometimes WebAssign randomizes the numbers so that individuals may have slightly different problems. Thus, when answering questions I may not be considering your specific problem, however the techniques I use will usually still apply.

To access WebAssign follow the steps below:

1. Browse to WebAssign through the course website or manually type in the address: <http://webassign.net/login.html>
2. Click on “I have a Class Key” button.
3. Enter “uwt 7958 0815” and hit Submit.
4. If you already have a WebAssign account, type in your login information, if not, create an account and log in. Note that your institution should be “uwt”.
5. If you cannot log into WebAssign, email me as soon as possible. You will not be granted extensions if you cite accessibility issues in the few hours before an assignment is due.

When you first log in you will see a notice about a grace period and payment options. You can register with an Access Code card (available in the enhanced WebAssign textbook) or you can buy an Access Code online with a credit card. After the grace period you will again see the notice and you will not be able to to continue without entering an Access Code.

I suggest you post any homework questions on one of the WebAssign forums. These discussion boards gives you a place to discuss any homework problems that were not addressed in class and, if answering a question correctly, can earn you extra credit on your homework scores. You may also request WebHW extensions as they are given freely.

Hand written assignments will also be assigned and collected on *Wednesdays*. An additional ten minutes of class on Tuesday will be reserved to address questions from the

handwritten assignments. *If completed early, you may turn these in to the Homework folder on Tuesday at the end of class*, otherwise slide your *stapled* assignment under my office door in GWP 430 by 8pm on Wednesday.

You are responsible to find out what material was covered and assignments given if you miss class. Your homework is expected to be written up neatly, clearly, and completely. No partial credit is given on individual problems so make your final answer and its required supporting work, easy to find and identify. No extensions are given for written homework.

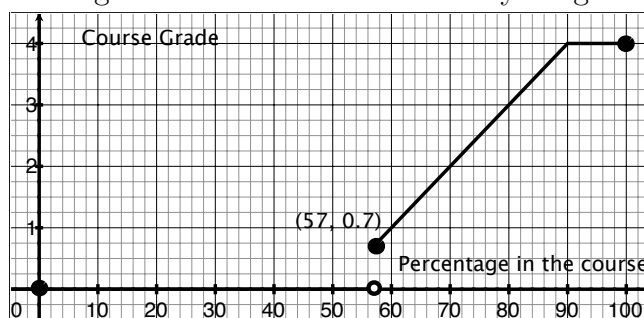
After receiving your corrected homework you are given one week to turn in a rewrite. Answers are marked only as right or wrong so you are responsible for finding and correcting your mistakes. I am available to help answer questions during office hours, but no additional class time will be dedicated to that homework assignment. Rewrites must be clearly marked as such and stapled on top of the original work with the section number clearly visible.

Mini Quizzes: A set of small five minute quizzes emphasizing computational skills will be given in the beginning of the quarter. Practicing these skills will decrease the number of mistakes on exams and thus increase overall scores. The mini-quizzes will be administered until the class average is above 75%. Make up mini-quizzes are not given and only the top score is recorded.

Quizzes: A quiz is given every week at the instructor's discretion. Generally you will be given 20 minutes for the quizzes after the homework question period is over on Thursdays. There is one online Readiness quiz that is administered through the online homework system WebAssign. This must be completed by Sunday of Week 1. Only open the Readiness quiz after you finish the WebAssign Orientation and make sure you have 45 minutes of uninterrupted time. No make up quizzes, unless previously arranged, will be given, but I will drop the lowest scoring quiz so that you have some flexibility.

Grades: The following weights will be used to calculate your percentage in the course. The function graphed takes your percentage in the course and returns your grade on a 4. scale.

Mini-Quizzes (top score)	5%
WeBWork assignments	10%
Handwritten assignments	15%
Quizzes	15%
2 Midterms	30%
Final	25%



Outside Resources:

Come visit me after class! If you are unable to stay for my posted office hours, please let me know and I will try to work with your schedule. Also remember that you are not alone in this class and your peers are a valuable (and often underutilized) resource.

Visit the Teaching & Learning Center (TLC)! Seminars designed for TMATH 120 students will be announced and regularly held throughout the term. Additionally math tutors are available Monday through Thursday from 10am-6pm. Complete information is available at <http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/tlc/>.

Notes:

- I do *not* check my email or the discussion boards after 4pm. Any homework questions, discussion board posts, or requests for an extension sent to my email after 4pm may not receive a response until the next morning.
- There will be no tolerance for cheating. All exams and quizzes are to be done individually unless otherwise specified. You are encouraged, however, to work together on the homework and rewrites and form study groups outside of class.
- The University of Washington Tacoma is committed to making physical facilities and instructional programs accessible to students with disabilities. Disability Support Services (DSS) functions as the focal point for coordination of services for students with disabilities. In compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any enrolled student at UW Tacoma who has an appropriately documented physical, emotional, or mental disability that “substantially limits one or more major life activities [including walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working],” is eligible for services from DSS. If you are wondering if you may be eligible for accommodations on our campus, please contact the DSS reception desk at 692-4522.
- The Counseling Center offers short-term, problem-focused counseling to UW Tacoma students who may feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities of college, work, family, and relationships. Counselors are available to help students cope with stresses and personal issues that may interfere with their ability to perform in school. The service is provided confidentially and without additional charge to currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students. To schedule an appointment, please call 692-4522 or stop by the Student Counseling Center (SCC), located in MAT 253.
- Safety Escorts are available Monday - Thursday 5:00pm - 10:30pm. They can be reached either through the duty officer or by dialing #300 from a campus phone. Additional safety information and emergency procedures is available at <http://www.tacoma.washington.edu/security>.
- While I have attempted to make this syllabus as complete as possible, adjustments will be made throughout the course. Announcements will be made during class and it is the responsibility of the student to keep updated if class is missed.