

MATH 1650.621 (TAMS)
fall 2026, version 2
Last Updated: August 31, 2026

Instructor: Professor Douglas Brozovic

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Office Hours:

- **Monday: 11:10-12:30**
- **Tuesday 2-2:50**
- **Wednesday 11:15-12:15**
- **By appointment**

Classroom Location:

- **ART 219, Wednesday and Friday 10:10 am to 11:00 am**
- **LANG 316, Tuesday and Thursday 9:35 am to 10:55 am**

Required Text And Software:

- The text for our class is *Pre-Calculus (8th Edition)*, by Stewart, Redlin and Watson.
- There is no need to buy a physical copy of the book. We will not be using it during class time. You will never need it in class.
- If you decide to purchase a physical copy, make sure you buy the 7th edition. That is the version used in non-TAMS 1650 sections.
- **You will have access to an e-version of the the textbook through WebAssign.**
- **You will enroll yourself in our WebAssign class.** You will need two things:

(a) **Our class key:**

Instructor: Douglas Brozovic

Section: MATH 1650, section 621

Class Key: unt 9599 1088

(b) A Cengage Code (they are the WebAssign parent company).

My understanding is that you will receive your code from TAMS.

- You will need the Canvas app on your portable devices, and you will need to turn on notifications.
- You will need ZOOM on your computer **and on your phone.**
- You may also need a good scanning app for uploading certain assignments.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF INSTRUCTOR

- You should expect me to be in class on time and well prepared. If I anticipate a day on which I may be late or absent, I will make every effort notify you beforehand.
- You can expect me to be honest about any mistakes that I make, and to correct them as soon as possible after I am made aware of them.
- You can expect fair and equal access to the material in this class. In particular, I will not allow the irresponsibility or inappropriate behavior of some to ruin our classroom dynamic.
- You can expect that your tests be graded and returned in a reasonable amount of time.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- **You are expected to read this syllabus carefully.**
- I will hold you accountable for the information herein.
- Students will be expected to carefully read the appropriate chapters in the text, including the worked examples. This will be an essential part of your attempt to master the material.
- Students will be responsible for obtaining any and all course materials. Most handouts will be available on our Canvas class page.
- Students will need to install the Canvas app on their phones and enable notifications. I will communicate the majority of announcements to you through Canvas.
- I will hold you to the student code of conduct as described in both the *UNT Student Handbook* and the *TAMS Student Handbook*. You should read them for yourselves.
- The study habits you establish the first few weeks of class are crucial—start working now! In my 45 years of experience as a university instructor and professor, I have found that those students who fall behind during the first 3 or 4 weeks of the course, almost without exception, end up failing the course.
- Frequent practice is crucial to the successful completion of a mathematics course. Cramming at the last minute will certainly lead to failure.
- **WARNING: As TAMS students, you must maintain a 3.0 GPA. Your performance in your math class will have a very significant impact.**
- **Therefore, START WORKING NOW—DAY ONE. I will not listen to any pleas at the end of the semester for a higher grade than what your percentage warrants. You will receive precisely the grade that you earn. You know what you need to do.**
- It is essential that you begin to establish proper work habits from day one.

- One of the major goals of this course is for you, the student, to begin the process of developing the ability to logically and systematically approach the resolution of problems. There is a substantial difference between a correct answer and a complete solution. You will be required to produce the latter. You will need to be able to do more than recite what you have memorized.

GRADING POLICY

Final Exam (Thurs, 10 Dec.)	200 pts (plus one 10pt bonus question)
Test 1 (Thurs., 17 Sept.)	100 pts (plus one 10pt bonus question)
Test 2 (Thurs., 15 Oct.)	100 pts (plus one 10pt bonus question)
Test 3 (Thurs., 12 Nov.)	100 pts (plus one 10pt bonus question)
Online (Canvas) Quizzes	30 pts
In-Class Quizzes	30 pts
Student evaluation of teaching	5 pts

- With the exception of the four bonus questions, the 5 (**five**) points from the student evaluation of teaching there will be **NO EXTRA CREDIT OF ANY KIND**.
- For the purposes of your final grade, I will compute your final point percentage against a total of 550 points.
- That total is strictly less (**by at least 55 points**) than the total points available to you. The potential benefit to you should be transparently clear.
- There is more than ample extra credit built into the grading system—provided you take advantage of it. There will also be a number quiz scores that I will drop (see below).
- In light of this, I WILL NOT round up grades—so don't waste my time by asking.

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

90% and above	———	A
80% and below 90%	—	B
70% and below 80%	—	C
60% and below 70%	—	D
below 60%	———	F

The grade of “I” is designed for students who are unable to complete work in a course but who are currently passing the course. The guidelines are clearly spelled out in the Student handbook. Before you ask, you had better have read the requirements.

POLICIES RELATING TO THE EXAMINATIONS AND FINAL

- Calculators will not be permitted on any in-class quizzes or exams.
- I expect to give each exam on the date in parentheses (see the section above on GRADING POLICY). However, **this is a tentative syllabus**. I will announce the exact date and time of each exam in class.
- **The Final Examination is scheduled for Thursday, 10 December, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am in LANG 316.**
- I will not administer an early final—each student is required to take the final exam at the scheduled time.
- I will **not** drop the lowest exam score—all will count towards the final grade.
- **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN.** For those students who miss one exam due to an Authorized Absence (see the Student Handbook), the final grade will be computed based only on those exams taken, together with quiz scores and the final exam.
- Students who miss a scheduled exam for family emergency, personal health problems, or similar legitimate reasons will be required to provide *official written* verification of said absence.
- Students who miss a scheduled exam are expected to contact me within 24 hours.
- Students missing an exam for unauthorized reasons will receive 0 (zero) points on the exam.
- The final exam will be comprehensive in the sense that problems may come from any of the sections that will be covered during the semester.
- **The grade of A signifies consistent excellence over the course of the semester.** An A on the final is not equivalent to an A for the course.
- I reserve the right to test you on problems which are generalizations of material covered in the class and/or in the book. The problems may not look exactly like the ones in the book.
- Indeed, in many cases, the problems I will ask will appear **only in class** and on quizzes. **So pay attention, and take clear and well organized notes.**
- Everything that I say in class is fair game for exam material. Everything on every handout is fair game for exam material. You will be responsible for everything unless I advise you to the contrary.

(A) In-class Quizzes

- There will be 30 points that will be based on your **in-class quiz** scores.
- In-class quizzes will be administered during class time—**usually** on Tuesday and/or Thursday.
- I will announce an upcoming quiz in class a day or two before it will be administered.
- There will be **NO MAKE UP QUIZZES**. I don't care.
- NEVER ask me if you can take a make-up quiz.
- **Calculators will not be permitted.**
- **In-class quizzes must be done in pencil or erasable ink (I like the Pilot FriXion pens).**
- **If you use erasable pen, YOU MUST USE BLACK OR BLUE. Do not use any other colors**
- **Students will need an good quality eraser that works well with their pencil or erasable pen. BUY ONE IMMEDIATELY.**
- I will be extremely unsympathetic in regards to poorly organized work on quizzes and exams, as well as sloppy and/or otherwise unreadable work.
- Get used to working **carefully and neatly**, and learning to organize your work exactly according to my expectations.
- You must show all appropriate and expected work. I will be absolutely clear about my expectations during class time. So pay attention and take careful notes.
- The expectation is for you to produce **both complete and correct solutions with all appropriate detail included in the correct place.**
- Correct answers with incorrect or incomplete work will receive little or no credit.
- There is a fundamental difference between an answer and a solution. It is the latter that you must learn.
- I will drop the 2 (two) lowest in-class quiz scores (a missed or late quiz counts as a zero)
- **For the purposes of a student's final grade, your in-class quiz point total will be computed as follows:** First, the lowest 2 in-class quiz scores are dropped. Then the total points from the remaining in-class quiz scores will be divided by the total number of points available from those quizzes (that were not dropped) to obtain a student's *quiz percentage*. The quiz percentage is then multiplied by 30 to obtain your in-class quiz point total contribution to your final point total.

(B) Online Quizzes

- There will be 30 points that will be based on **online quiz** scores.
- Online quizzes will be administered through Canvas.
- There will be **NO MAKE UP QUIZZES**.
- If you fail to successfully complete an online quiz **FOR ANY REASON**, you will receive **NO CREDIT**.
- I will drop the 2 (two) lowest online quiz scores (a missed online quiz counts as a zero)
- **For the purposes of a student's final grade, your online quiz point total will be computed as follows:** First, the lowest 2 quiz scores are dropped. Then the total points from the remaining online quiz scores will be divided by the total number of points available from those quizzes (that were not dropped) to obtain a student's *quiz percentage*. The quiz percentage is then multiplied by 30 to obtain your quiz point total contribution to your final point total.

(C) Homework

- I will not collect homework.
- I will post a list of **“practice problems”** on the canvas page. The problems will come from your text book.
- I expect you to attempt as many of the problems as possible.
- We will discuss these problems during our **“problem days”**.

POLICIES RELATED TO IN-CLASS QUIZZES, EXAMINATIONS, AND THE FINAL EXAM

The following instructions apply to each in-class quiz, test, and to the final examination:

- **All electronic devices must be off.**
- **Cell phones, tablets, and the like are not to be handled nor looked at all during class time.**
- Students are not permitted to use notes of any kind.
- Students are not permitted to use calculators.
- Students must write in pencil or **erasable pen** (the Pilot Frixion pens work quite well). You must have a good eraser for whichever you use.
- **Students should be extremely careful to keep their eyes on their own work. Cheating is a serious offense, and will be treated as such.**
- Students will not begin a test or final exam until they are instructed to do so.
- I will (or a proctor of my choosing) will keep the exact time during the quiz, exam, or final exam. The proctor will keep students abreast of the time remaining.

- When the proctor announces that time is expired, I will say “pencils up”, and **ALL STUDENTS WILL STOP WRITING IMMEDIATELY.**
- Any student still writing after that point will receive a zero (0) on the page on which he/she is working.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- The following statement regarding “Class Attendance and Conduct” is taken directly from TAMS Student Handbook:

Class attendance and participation are required. Students must be alert, attentive, energetic, and eager to learn. Students who exhibit disruptive behavior or show disrespect to a teacher in the classroom are subject to severe disciplinary sanctions. The Academy does not authorize absences from class. Students must report all absences to the Academic Office within 36 hours of the absence by completing an Absence Report Form (on line) with the Academic Office.

- As a TAMS student, you are required to attend class **on time**. I will report any absences or tardiness to the TAMS office.
- As a TAMS student, **you are not permitted to sleep during class. Period. The end.**
- During class I will clearly indicate what I consider to be a complete solution, and my expectations regarding various types of solutions, notation and so forth. You will not learn these things in the Math Lab.
- I will also indicate the various pitfalls and standard mistakes to avoid.

Class will not meet on the following days:

- Monday, 7 September (Labor Day).
- 23-27 November (Thanksgiving Break).

CLASSROOM DYNAMICS:

The following is taken directly from the list of “**Ten Student Academic Rights and Responsibilities**”, appearing on the official University of North Texas web page

<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/conduct/10-academic-rights>

Students may not disrupt class or any other university process by any means whatsoever (including sideline conversations, comments, arguments, noise of any kind or other activity which would hinder access to or utilization of academic information.) I suffer this sort of foolishness poorly.

The following is a list of activities that I expect students to avoid. Most of you are, no doubt, responsible individuals to whom these issues are totally obvious. My desire is not to treat you like children. It is, however, important to communicate the basic expectations so as to remove

any ambiguity and excuse. Each of you should know that I will demand mature and courteous behavior and will not tolerate behavior that is disrespectful, rude, or otherwise disruptive, in any way, to the dissemination and/or exchange of information.

I reserve the right to deduct points in the event that you do not comply with these expectations, in addition to other disciplinary consequences associate to the TAMS and UNT student codes of conduct.

- **CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.** Turn them off **before you enter the classroom**), keep them off, and do not get them out during class.

Any cell phone or electronic device nonsense will result in points being deducted from your overall point total as follows: 5 points for the first event, 10 more for the second, 15 more for the third and so on.

- **TARDINESS**, that is, coming to class after lecture has begun. Students are expected to come to class **ON TIME**. If you know that on occasion you will be late, then you should speak to me about it. Recall that quizzes will be administered and homework collected at the beginning of class.
- **LEAVING CLASS EARLY** . Students are expected to remain for the entire class period. I pledge to make every effort to end class on time. If you anticipate having to leave early for some reason, then I expects you to speak to me **beforehand**.
- **BOOK SHUFFLING, PAPER SHUFFLING, BOOK BAG ZIPPING BEFORE LECTURE IS FINISHED.** This is disruptive, annoying, and will not be tolerated.
- **READING MATERIALS NOT PERTAINING DIRECTLY TO THIS SPECIFIC COURSE.** If you want to read or study for other classes, do so outside of this class.
- **SLEEPING IN CLASS.** First, this is a violation of your TAMS directives. Second, people who regularly fall asleep in class are almost always gone after the first semester of TAMS. Third, it is disrespectful.

STUDENT EVALUATIONS

- The *Student Perception of Teaching* (AKA SPOT) evaluation process is a **requirement for all organized classes at UNT**. This short survey will be made available to you online, mid to late November and I will remind you as the time approaches.
- I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. In addition, the University leadership considers the SPOT evaluation process to be an important part of your participation in this class.
- The SPOT evaluations can only be accessed online.
- I will create a Canvas assignment for this, and will explain everything when the time approaches.
- If you complete the assignment by the deadline, you will receive 5 additional points.

SPECIAL NOTES

(A) ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STANDARDS AND CONSEQUENCES:

According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. Consequences may include receiving a zero on a given assignment, exam, or project.

(B) EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION & PROCEDURES

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to the UNT Learning Management System (LMS) for contingency plans for covering course materials.

(C) AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.