

2025 Spring MATH 1650.310 | Precalculus

MW 6:00 pm – 8:20 pm | Wooten Hall 117

Instructor Contact

Name: Jake Williams

Pronouns: He/him/his

Office Location: GAB 462

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm

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Communication Expectations: Send an email to the above email address. I highly recommend using [UNT's Webmail](#) service to do this. You *must* use your UNT email account, or I cannot respond *at all* due to FERPA and other privacy concerns. Your communication with me should be in line with [UNT's General Online Communication Guidelines](#). If you email me and do not receive a reply within one (1) business day, please send a follow-up. A gentle nudge is always appreciated!

Note: One *business day* is Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm.

Course Description

5 hours. Preparatory course for calculus: trigonometric functions, their graphs and applications; sequences and series; exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs; graphs of polynomial and rational functions; general discussion of functions and their properties.

Required Text/Access to WebAssign

Cengage WebAssign is an online homework platform which can be accessed directly through Canvas. WebAssign access includes all online homework assignments, the textbook, and additional learning resources. Use the link in Canvas to register immediately. You must register in WebAssign by the 2nd class day of the semester. The textbook is Stewart, James, Lothar, Redlin, Saleem, Watson *Precalculus – Mathematics for Calculus, 8th Edition*, Cengage Learning (2016). It is available online through the WebAssign platform. WebAssign offers a no-cost trial 14-day access, beginning on the first day of the semester. You must purchase access before the trial expires on the 14th day of class. If you do not make the purchase before the trial period ends, you may lose credit for all work previously completed.

Grading

Homework (WebAssign) – 10%

Quizzes – 10%

Written Assignments – 5%

Midterm Exams – 60%

Final Exam – 15%

- A: 90 and above
- B: 80 – 89
- C: 70 – 79
- D: 60 – 69
- F: 59 and below

No rounding is done when assigning final grades. If you receive a 69.99% in my course, you will be

assigned a "D", not a "C". The same goes for the other letter grade boundaries.

Late work will not be accepted in this course, regardless of the reason.

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

- Officially, the prerequisite is a grade of C or higher in MATH 1100, or placing in the class via a placement test
- Good note-taking skills and the discipline to review your notes.
- A willingness to put in several hours of work each week to absorb the material in each module. In math courses – especially this one – the content will build upon itself making it very difficult to catch up if you fall behind.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, learners will be able to:

1. Apply properties of functions to graphing and modeling.
2. Solve equations involving algebraic and transcendental functions.
3. Use graphing techniques to graph algebraic and transcendental functions by hand.
4. Identify and determine exact and approximate values of trigonometric functions of angles in both radians and degrees.
5. Prove trigonometric identities.
6. Solve right and oblique triangles.
7. Define polar coordinates and graph polar equations.
8. Apply the terminology of sequences and series to determine terms and sums.

Calculator Policy

Calculators *will not* be permitted for quizzes or exams. Calculators may be used on all homework assignments. A TI 83 or 84 or equivalent is recommended, but any scientific calculator should be enough. There are several free online calculators you can use while working on homework assignments as well (e.g., Desmos, GeoGebra, Wolfram Alpha).

WebAssign Online Homework

Your WebAssign homework is found on the WebAssign website (link provided on Canvas). The online assignments will always be due at 1:00pm on the due date. If the due times conflict with your other classes, work ahead. You have five (5) attempts per problem type for most problems in WebAssign. At the end of the term, your two (2) lowest WebAssign homework scores will be dropped.

To provide an incentive, you will receive a **10% bonus for any work on homework completed more than 48 hours before the deadline**. Keep in mind that you will have to check WebAssign and/or Canvas frequently to keep up with the due dates.

Written Assignments

You will have several written assignments. These assignments require you to show, in your own handwriting, the mathematical process for selected problems. These written assignments must satisfy the following conditions:

- Must be completed in your own legible writing;
- Must show your own original work;
- Project-level quality: well organized, steps clearly ordered, mathematically correct;
- Little to no credit for correct answers without correct work;

A grade penalty will be assigned to any submission that does not meet all the submission requirements. More detailed information on the submission criteria is available on Canvas. No late homework will be accepted for any reason whatsoever. At the end of the term, your two (2) lowest written homework scores will be dropped.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be administered roughly once a week in the recitation portion of our class meetings, which take place during the last 50 minutes or so of class. Quizzes are collaborative but closed-note work. In addition, you may ask for hints from your instructor, who will provide help up to but not including full solutions. Quizzes count for 10% of your final course average. At the end of the term, your two (2) lowest quiz grades will be dropped.

Exams

You will have four exams and a comprehensive final exam. Actual exams dates and content will be announced in class, usually at least one week before the exam date. The tentative exam dates are Sep 10, Sep 29, Oct 22, and Nov 19.

No make-up exams will be given for any reason. An exam may be taken prior to the scheduled date. You must request this accommodation via email at least one week prior to the day you wish to take the early exam. If you miss an exam, contact your instructor as soon as possible.

Attendance

Attendance is important and required. In this class, this means writing down lecture notes and asking questions in class if you need additional explanation. It is assumed you will do this. The instructor will not repeat entire lectures or offer personal lessons during office hours or by email. These venues are for specific questions about course content, problems from online assignments, etc.

Generative AI Policy

Learning mathematics requires independent thought and the ability to see and learn from one's own mistakes. In addition, generative AI is known to math educators to make serious errors, assume facts unknown to the student, and produce a great deal of clutter in addition to valid steps. Therefore, the use of Generative AI like ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, etc., is strictly prohibited in this course. Depending on the nature of the assignment in question, if a student is caught using such services to do their work, the student's grade may be heavily penalized, including the possibility of a zero on the assignment. At the instructor's discretion, depending on the severity of the infraction, this conduct may be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Changes to Syllabus

Your instructor reserves the right to amend, append, or otherwise make changes to this syllabus, should the need arise. Any changes will be posted as an Announcement on Canvas.

Getting Help

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

UIT Help Desk: [UIT Student Help Desk](https://aits.unt.edu/support/) (https://aits.unt.edu/support/)

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Phone: 940-565-2324

Canvas Technical Requirements: [Canvas Technical Requirements](https://lms.unt.edu/resources/canvas-requirements.html)
(https://lms.unt.edu/resources/canvas-requirements.html)

Additional Canvas resources: [Canvas Student Guide](https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/tkb-p/student)
(https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/tkb-p/student)

Cengage WebAssign Technical Support

Phone: 800.354.9707

Website: [WebAssign Student Support](#)

Academic Support Services

- [UNT Math Lab](https://math.unt.edu/undergraduate/math-lab.html) (https://math.unt.edu/undergraduate/math-lab.html)
- [UNT Learning Center](https://learningcenter.unt.edu) (https://learningcenter.unt.edu)
- [Academic Success Center](https://www.unt.edu/success/asc) (https://www.unt.edu/success/asc)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (https://library.unt.edu/)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (http://writingcenter.unt.edu/)

Student Support Services

Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and physical and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/care-team/) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/care-team/)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/student-counseling/) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/student-counseling/)

Other student support services offered by UNT include:

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/index.html) (https://registrar.unt.edu/index.html)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (https://financialaid.unt.edu/)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/student-legal-services/) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/programs-and-services/student-legal-services/)
- [Career Center](https://careercenter.unt.edu/) (https://careercenter.unt.edu/)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- [Center for Belonging and Engagement](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/eagle-engagement-center/index.html) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/eagle-engagement-center/index.html)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry/index.html) (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/desresources/programs/food-pantry/index.html)

UNT Policies

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.

Cheating on tests, quizzes or final exams is a serious breach of academic standards and will be punished severely and generally result in a student failing the course. All work done on exams and quizzes must represent only the student's own work, unless otherwise stated in the directions. 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. See [Academic Integrity](#) for details on academic integrity at UNT.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

ADA Policy

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.

Emergency Notification and 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.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses

Federal Regulation

To read detailed Immigration and Customs Enforcement regulations for F-1 students taking online courses, please go to the [Electronic Code of Federal Regulations website](http://www.ecfr.gov/)(http://www.ecfr.gov/). The specific portion concerning distance education courses is located at Title 8 CFR 214.2 Paragraph (f)(6)(i)(G).

The paragraph reads:

(G) For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

University of North Texas Compliance

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student's responsibility to do the following:

- (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.
- (2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose.

Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

Student Verification

UNT takes measures to protect the integrity of educational credentials awarded to students enrolled in distance education courses by verifying student identity, protecting student privacy, and notifying students of any special meeting times/locations or additional charges associated with student identity verification in distance education courses.

See [UNT Policy 07-002 Student Identity Verification, Privacy, and Notification and Distance Education Courses](https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002) (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/07-002>).