

**MA 111 - PRECALCULUS**  
**Internet – Section 601**  
**Fall 2019**  
**North Carolina State University**  
**Department of Mathematics**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Instructor:** Brenda Burns-Williams

**Office:** 3242 SAS Hall

**Phone Number:** 513-2114 (I am not in the office often, so the best way to reach me is via email)

**E-mail address:** [bdburns@ncsu.edu](mailto:bdburns@ncsu.edu) (email is answered several times each day between 8am and 6pm each business day)

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Class Will Meet:** The course content is available on the first day of classes at <http://wolfware.ncsu.edu>

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Students will study real numbers, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trig functions and graphs, and analytic trigonometry in order to prepare for Calculus I. This course also fulfills the university's General Education Requirement (GER) and therefore seeks to impart the following objectives for a GER mathematics course: students should be able to improve and refine mathematical problem-solving abilities; and develop logical reasoning skills. To help meet these objectives students will, by the end of the semester, be able to analyze real world problems by using mathematical models and use appropriate techniques for solving various types of equations.

**TEXTBOOK:**

Precalculus: Algebra and Trigonometry, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, by Burns-Williams, NCSU Mathematics Department, 2013

The book is delivered through WebAssign. Students will pay for the pdf version of the book, the homework assignments and sample tests in one lump sum at the beginning of the semester through the WebAssign site for the course. Students should use the following website to access the materials: (<http://webassign.ncsu.edu>)

You will have access to the course content in Moodle and WebAssign (used to provide the text and for homework – see below) as of the first day of classes. ***(You will not be able to view course content or the book before the first day of classes.)***

**LECTURES**

The lectures for the course are inside our learning management system Moodle, <http://wolfware.ncsu.edu/>. Each lecture is about 10-15 minutes in length and is paired with a particular objective or example. They may be viewed by clicking on the WATCH IT box on each page of the book. The Read It materials are from the text.

**COURSE GRADE**

The final grade is based on Pretests (5%), Homework (10%), 3 Tests (60%), and a Final Exam (25%). As per the NCSU requirement, the plus/minus grading system will be in effect.

100-98 A+	92-97 A	90-91 A-
88-89 B+	82-87 B	80-81 B-
78-79 C+	72-77 C	70-71 C-
68-69 D+	62-67 D	60-61 D-
0-59 F		

**NO CURVES. NO RETESTS. NO EXAM EXEMPTIONS.**

## PRETESTS and TRYIT Quizzes and Chapter Tests:

At the beginning of each module you will be asked to take a pretest. There is a question from each of the learning objectives for that module on the pretest. You should take the pretests BEFORE studying the module. If you miss one of the questions on a pretest you will be directed to the material in the module that corresponds to that objective. After you have studied the material from the objective you will be able to take a Try It quiz on the material. If you get that question correct, you will regain the point you lost on the pretest. So, even if you miss all of the questions on the pretest you can still make a 100 by studying and taking the Try It quizzes to regain the points you lost. You can use the pretests as a kind of roadmap to the material. They will help you determine which objectives you will need to study the most. I have included a chapter test at the end of each module to allow you to review the material once again if you would like. You may use these to study for tests or just for additional practice. Each of the problems is worth 1 point and is considered bonus points for that module. If you have full credit for the module already and then miss a Try It quiz question or a Chapter Test question no points will be deducted. You can do all of them for practice without hurting your grade for that module.

If you are confident that you do not know the material in the module, you may view the module materials first then take the “pretest”. The pretest option is just there for those people who have taken precalculus recently and need to brush up on some skills more than others.

## HOMEWORK:

**Homework is due on TUESDAYS throughout the semester. The pacing guide contains the information on which assignments are due each Tuesday.**

Graded homework is assigned via WebAssign, (<http://webassign.ncsu.edu>) a web-based homework system. **On the first day of classes** you will be able to see your course on WebAssign and pay for access. This may be paid on the website with a check card or a credit card. You will be allowed to use WebAssign for a the first few days of class without paying, but you will be denied access to assignments if payment is not made by the due date listed on WebAssign.

You have **5 submissions** for each question. The final submission is the grade you receive on the assignment. I will set up a forum in Moodle for questions about the WebAssign assignments. You may post questions about exercises and give answers or hints to each other. I will chime in occasionally as needed, but this is primarily your opportunity to help each other out.

WebAssign problems make up a large portion of your final grade, so do not fall behind or skip ANY of these. There is no make-up available for missed assignments, so keep track of the due dates and **START WORK EARLY** on the problems. **Mathematics is not a spectator sport!** You must work regularly in order to understand and master the concepts. Test questions will often relate to the WebAssign problems, however remember to work problems from the book as well. These are good pencil and paper practice for the tests.

## TESTS:

Choose either of the dates listed below to take the test. All tests **must** be taken on the dates listed below. If you will be out of town on the dates listed, you must set up a time with a proctor in your intended location to take your test on that day! **GRAPHING CALCULATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED DURING THE TEST!!!!** All tests are pencil and paper open ended questions. You must show your work to get full credit.

**Test 1: 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 or 2/8** (Calculus Related Factoring, Modules 1-11) – 60 minutes

**Test 2: 3 / 4, 3/5. Or 3/6** (Regions Bounded by Curves, Modules 12-16) – 60 minutes

**Test 3: 4/16, 4/17, 4/18** (Modules 17-24) – 60 minutes

**Final Exam: 4/29, 4/30, 5/1, or 5/2** (Modules 1-27, Calculus Related Factoring, Regions Bounded by Curves) – 3 hours

*\*I expect all students to adhere to the University's regulations on academic integrity (i.e. No cheating or plagiarizing!). Talking during a test is not permitted for any reason. If a student talks or disrupts the test*

*in any manner, that student's paper will be confiscated and he or she will be given a 0 on the test. If a student is cheating, then the matter will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further action.*

#### **PROCTORS:**

**Those students who live more than 50 miles away from Raleigh, NC** do not have to take their tests on NCSU campus. They may use a proctor in their town for testing. The proctor must be approved in advance through the Distance Education office. It can take up to 1 week to verify a proctor and set up all needed contact info, so please do this early! Please visit the remote proctor website at [https://online-distance.ncsu.edu/current\\_students/testing-services/testing-services-remote/](https://online-distance.ncsu.edu/current_students/testing-services/testing-services-remote/) to set up this service.

**If you live less than 50 miles away from Raleigh, NC** you will take your tests on our campus through the Distance Education Testing Centers. Testing will be done on a walk-in basis (no appointments). Students should be mindful of closing hours for both Testing Centers, and give themselves plenty of time to complete their exams. All testing is first-come, first served. No students will be allowed to check in for their exams less than 30 minutes before closing time, and all tests must be completed and turned in at the time the facility closes.

For information on locations and hours of operation please visit the Local Proctor website at [https://online-distance.ncsu.edu/current\\_students/testing-services/testing-services-on-campus/](https://online-distance.ncsu.edu/current_students/testing-services/testing-services-on-campus/) (If the link does not work, copy/paste the address into your browser)

#### **TEST MAKE-UP POLICY**

**All Make-up Test grades will come from the final exam.** If you miss a test with an excused absence you may replace your test grade with the grade you earn on the final exam.

#### **CORRECTIONS TO GRADING:**

If you feel that an error was made in the grading of a test, present and explain the error in writing on the outside of the test to the instructor within 1 week after the test is returned. Do not write on or make any changes to the original test paper.

#### **EXPECTATIONS:**

Please know that I have the highest expectations for ALL of my students. As far as I am concerned, you are all starting my class as A students. You CAN do well in here, but ....

#### **YOU MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SEEKING HELP WHEN NEEDED**

Communication with your instructor is essential to your success. I want to help. Please make use of my online office hours and feel free to email or call me at any time with questions. . Also, the Multi-Media Center (2105 SAS Hall) is staffed with math graduate students who offer free tutoring on a limited basis.

#### **DISABILITY SERVICES:**

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.1). Students must have appropriate documentation from Disability Services (<http://www.ncsu.edu/dso>) **AND** must discuss accommodations with me **PRIOR** to a test or quiz date.