

Precalculus BC Syllabus
2019-2020

Teacher: Stephanie Chen
Email: schen2@houstonisd.org

Tutorials: M-F SSEP
11:35-12:20 in a meeting in the general channel

Course Outline:

Algebra 2 review
Trigonometric functions and identities
Polar Coordinates
Vectors
Sequences and Series
Limits and continuity
Derivatives
Application of Derivatives

Other skills you should gain/improve upon:

Problem Solving Skills
Critical Thinking Abilities

Supplies: Binder or notebook, graphing paper, pencils, and access to a graphing calculator at home

Textbook: *Precalculus*, Michael Sullivan, Michael Sullivan III, 4th Edition, 2008

Textbook: Online Textbook: Larson, *Calculus Early Transcendental Functions*, 6th Edition

Grading:

70% of your grade will be based on your work on comprehensive tests, quizzes and other graded assignments. These grades are on a point-based system. Your grade will be calculated by the points you earned divided by the total points available. 15% of your grade will be based on watching the lecture videos or completing hmwk and the last 15% will be based on Memory Quizzes and Understanding Checks/Debriefs.

Classwork

- **(Practice Problems during virtual):** Since the school is not distributing physical textbooks this year, students have limited access to the Precal text we use. Due to copyright issues, I cannot record or digitally distribute the textbook to students. Thus, I will project the text via Microsoft Teams during class and students may work independently or in groups to work through practice problems. Class time may also be used for activities to help improve student understanding of the content in the lecture videos.
- **(Guided Lecture during face to face):** In all honesty, with four preps, I won't be able to keep up with making videos all year.

Homework

- **(Lecture videos during virtual learning):** At least while we are in the virtual learning environment, we will work with a flipped classroom model. You are expected to have watched the lecture videos in Edpuzzle before the class period when we will discuss the topic. If you complete the video after the due time, you will receive a 50% for that lecture. If you do not complete the lecture video, you will receive a 0% for that lecture.
- **(Practice problems when face to face):** Daily homework will be assigned and checked at the beginning of class. Students can receive a 0%, 50%, 80%, or 100% based on completion; students may raise their homework grade by **one** percentage level (i.e. initially received 50% - can be raised to 80%) by completing an incomplete assignment and presenting it to the teacher. It is expected that students complete homework on the night it is assigned so that students can come in for tutorial help **before** class and clarify any misunderstanding.

Memory Quizzes/Understanding Checks: Class each day will begin with either a Memory Quiz or a timed Understanding Check.

- Memory Quizzes will be given orally over routine material that students are expected to know. Students should have only a blank page and a writing utensil ready to go when class starts; if a student misses a question, the teacher will not repeat it. Students may not discuss questions with one another during the quiz. Nothing may be written on the page until the first question is called out.
- Understanding checks will consist of problems related to the previous night's homework. Problems will be displayed on the smartboard with a timer. Students may have access to their homework to help activate memory.
 - **(During Virtual)** Both will be timed assignments on the HUB

Assessments: There will be a test to wrap up each unit and a midterm/final at the end of each semester as well as quizzes sprinkled here and there. Partial credit can be earned by showing work and giving appropriate AP justifications. If a student is absent on the day of the assessment, s/he is expected to contact the teacher as soon as s/he returns and make it up **within two days** of return.

- **(During Virtual):** Assessments will be announced ahead of time and will be open and available on the HUB from 12:01 AM to 11:59 PM on the date of assessment.

Retakes: If students are not satisfied with their grade, students may request a retake using the provided online retake request form. Students must first complete corrections for the assessment they plan to retake; corrections are due 24 hours before the scheduled retake. Only two assessment retakes are allowed each quarter. Students can make a maximum of 70% on a retake. A retake must be requested by the student within 24 hours of receiving their grade.

GRADING SCALE:

- A: 90-100%
- B: 89-80%
- C: 79-75%
- D: 74-70%
- F: below 70%

Participation Policy: Regular attendance with active participation and a positive attitude is necessary to successfully complete this course. You are responsible for your understanding of the material. If you do not understand something, you are expected to ask questions or seek extra help.