

## MA 111: Precalculus I, Fall 2023

Syllabus for MW Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, and 306

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### Instructors of Record:

Elizabeth Dempster (she/her), Course Coordinator, ejdempst@ncsu.edu, Sas 3250

Kylan Schatz(they/them), kaschatz@ncsu.edu, Sas 3217

James Garrison(he/him), jegarri3@ncsu.edu, Sas 4125

**Course Overview.** This is a hybrid precalculus course; there is an online learning component as well as an in-class learning component. You are responsible for doing the online learning portion and coming to class prepared prior to the first in-class day . In-class time is reserved for discussing topics in greater depth, answering questions, and completing work in groups after individual online learning occurs. The final grade is based on homework (20%), 3 in-class tests (20% each), and a final exam (20%).

**Course Description and Learning Objectives.** 3 credit hours. Study of real numbers, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric functions and all their graphs. The course is designed to prepare the student for MA 141. By the end of this course, a successful student should be able to:

- (1) Recognize and use proper notation, precise definitions, and theorems to solve problems and communicate solutions.
- (2) Manipulate functions and equations algebraically into different forms given specific contexts.
- (3) Graph functions and equations accurately.
- (4) Solve equations and inequalities algebraically and graphically.
- (5) Write a function to model a given scenario and make predictions based on that model.
- (6) Adapt a general function to model a given scenario and make predictions based on that model.

### Course Structure.

★ **Online learning before in-class day 1:** Read the assigned text, watch video lectures, take notes, and attempt self-check quizzes. Review your notes and mark any questions or problem areas you may have.

★ **In-class Day 1 :** Attendance is taken. We will briefly review notes and outline the main points of lecture videos, then answer questions you may have and/or discuss topics in more depth.

★ **Online assignments between in-class days:** Complete any remaining Part 1 Webassigns and review self-check quizzes. Begin working on Part 2 Webassigns.

★ **In-class Day 2 :** Attendance is taken. We will work on the in-class assignments and additional practice in groups. It is very helpful to identify how this material relates to the modules each week and use those lessons to guide you.

★ **Online assignment following in-class day 2:** Complete remaining Part 2 Webassigns.

## Course Materials.

- (1) Moodle: A class website will be maintained at <https://wolfware.ncsu.edu/> with course announcements, online learning materials, class materials, and other resources.
- (2) WebAssign: \$82.95 for access to homework assignments. Our WebAssign is synced with Moodle (so we do not have a course key). Please refer to the Student Guide at <https://bit.ly/howtoweassign> for detailed instructions.
- (3) Textbook: OpenStax Precalculus. Free download available at <https://openstax.org/details/books/prec calculus>. You may view it online or download as a PDF. Please download it so the page numbers and problem numbers correspond to what I write in notes and in review sheets.

A scientific calculator is permitted, but not required. Graphing calculators will **not** be allowed on tests and their use is discouraged during class. Rather, please try and use skills we are developing in this course!

**Learning Resources at NCSU.** Each of you can succeed as long as you take responsibility for seeking help as soon as you need it! Here are some academic resources:

- Office hours with your instructor!!
- Multimedia Center in SAS Hall 2103/2105 (see <https://go.ncsu.edu/sasmmc>): drop-in tutoring hosted by graduate students
- Academic Success Center (see <https://asc.dasa.ncsu.edu/>): drop-in, one-on-one, or group tutoring as well as additional learning resources (peer mentors, academic skill hand-outs/videos, learning consultants)

**Communication.** Primary communication between students and the instructor will be via Moodle announcements and email. If you need to contact your instructor via email, **use your ncsu account** and include the course name and section (MA 111**section X**) and a relevant topic in the subject line.

**Accommodations.** Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with the Disability Resource Office (<https://dro.dasa.ncsu.edu/>) and then **communicate with the instructor** in a timely manner. **Each student who wishes to use their accommodations must schedule testing with the DRO as soon as possible (no later than one week before each test).** For more information, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (NCSU REG 02.20.01) or visit <https://dro.dasa.ncsu.edu/about-us/policies-rules-regulations/>.

**Attendance Policy.** Attendance will be recorded, but does not count toward the course grade. Please do not come to class when you are sick. If you miss the "In class work day" class, it is your responsibility to complete and review the in-class group work on your own. Class recordings are available on Moodle.

**Office Hours.** Office hours are a dedicated drop-in time set aside specifically for the benefit of the student (like study hall!), but are not required. Discussions with the instructor are student-driven. You may attend at any point during the designated time to ask for clarification on course content, homework, etc. To prepare for office hours, first review your notes from class and attempt some related problems. Try to identify as clearly as you can what you do not understand or need help on and mark it so you can refer back to it to more easily ask questions.

**Structure and Grading.** Letter grading follows the +/- 10 point scale on the right below.

### Grade Breakdown

Component	Weight
WebAssign	20%
In-class Tests (3)	60% (20% each)
Final Exam	20%

### Grading Scale

$98 \leq A+$	$92 \leq A < 98$	$90 \leq A- < 92$
$88 \leq B+ < 90$	$82 \leq B < 88$	$80 \leq B- < 82$
$78 \leq C+ < 80$	$72 \leq C < 78$	$70 \leq C- < 72$
$68 \leq D+ < 70$	$62 \leq D < 68$	$60 \leq D- < 62$
		F < 60

**WebAssign.** The homework assignments are obtained, submitted, and graded online and are due twice weekly via WebAssign. Part 1 Webassigns are due Tuesday nights and Part 2 Webassigns are due Friday nights. Each module (usually) has two parts to the homework assignment. The Part 2 assignments include problems that are more challenging and similar to the ones you work on during in-class day 2. Extensions may be requested via WebAssign with a 15% penalty on unearned points. Any extension taken ends 14 days after the assignment's original due date.

**Quizzes.** Self-check quizzes should be attempted before day 1 ; they are not part of your grade but for you to do self assessment of how well you remember (or do not) the particular section of material.

**Tests.** The 3 in-class tests are closed-book, closed-note, with no graphing calculators permitted. The following test material is subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

**Test 1:** Wednesday, September 27 (Modules 1–8)

**Test 2:** Wednesday, October 25 (Modules 9–14)

**Test 3:** Monday, November 27 (Modules 15–20)

**Test Make-up Policy for Excused Absences.** Anticipated, excused absences (such as NCSU obligations, required court attendance, and religious observance) must be reported to the instructor with appropriate certification **at least 1 week before** the scheduled test date. Emergency excused absences must be reported as soon as possible and usually require documentation. In this case, a make-up exam will be offered at the end of the semester on **Tuesday, November 28th 7am.**

**Lowest Test Grade Replacement.** At the conclusion of the semester, each students' final exam grade will replace their lowest test grade score if and only if the final exam score is higher than the lowest test grade score. The exam can only replace one low test score (or none if the exam grade is not higher than one of the three in class tests.)

**Corrections to Grading.** If you think an error may have been made in the grading of your test, carefully review the answer key posted on Moodle and *then* contact the instructor **within 1 week of the test's return** with your question; grades will not be altered after this period of time. **Do NOT alter the original work.**

**Final Exam.** The final exam date is scheduled by the University at the following time, it is based on your classes time of day so there will not be conflicts.

- (1) 301(12:50 MW): Fri, Dec.8th 12-2:30
- (2) 302(1:55 MW): Mon, Dec.11th 12-2:30
- (3) 303(8:30 MW): Wed, Dec.13th 8:30-11

- (4) 304(9:35 MW): Fri, Dec.8th 8:30-11
- (5) 305(10:40MW): Mon, Dec.11th 8:30-11
- (6) 306(3:00 MW): Fri, Dec.8th 3:30-6

This date is non-negotiable unless you have 3 consecutive exams within 24 hours. Determine if this is the case and contact the instructor at least 1 month before the final exam. In the event of an emergency, the instructor should be instructed as soon as possible. The final is comprehensive: it will cover all course material.

**Academic Integrity.** Students may work together on homework and in-class assignments as instructed, but must complete all tests on their own; students are responsible for their own understanding of material. Study materials posted on Moodle may not be shared with students not enrolled in this semester's class section. All students are expected to adhere to the University's regulations on academic integrity. Documentation of violations will be submitted to the Office of Student Conduct. For more, see <https://policies.ncsu.edu/policy/pol-11-35-01/>.

### **Mental/Physical Health and Community Resources at NCSU.**

- African American Cultural Center: <https://diversity.ncsu.edu/aacc>
- Counseling Center: <https://counseling.dasa.ncsu.edu/>
- Counseling Telehealth (12 free appts per student per year): <https://counseling.dasa.ncsu.edu/nc-state-counseling-telehealth-by-academic-live-care/>
- Disability Resource Office: <https://dro.dasa.ncsu.edu/>
- GLBT Center: <https://diversity.ncsu.edu/glbt>
- Interfaith Prayer and Meditation Spaces:  
<https://diversity.ncsu.edu/interfaith-prayer-and-meditation-spaces/>
- Multicultural Student Affairs: <https://diversity.ncsu.edu/msa>
- NC State CARES: <https://go.ncsu.edu/CARES>
- Prevention Services Drop-in Spaces: <https://prevention.dasa.ncsu.edu/drop-in-spaces/>
- Student Health Center: <https://healthypack.dasa.ncsu.edu/>
- Wellness Coaching:  
<https://wellrec.dasa.ncsu.edu/wellness-2/programs/wellness-coaching/>
- Women's Center: <https://diversity.ncsu.edu/womens-center>

**Supporting Fellow Students in Distress.** As members of the NC State Wolfpack community, we each share a personal responsibility to express concern for one another and to ensure that this classroom and the campus as a whole remains a healthy and safe environment for learning. Occasionally, you may come across a fellow classmate whose personal behavior concerns or worries you, either for the classmates well-being or yours. If you have concerns, please submit a notice to : <https://go.ncsu.edu/CARES>. Although you can report anonymously, it is preferred that you share your contact information so they can follow-up with you personally.

**Non-discrimination Policy.** NC State University provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Accordingly, NC State affirms its commitment to maintain a work environment for all employees and an academic environment for all students that is free from all forms of discrimination. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation also is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Any person who feels that they have been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 919-515-3148. For more information, see [http://www.ncsu.edu/equal\\_op/](http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op/).