Name: Dr. Jonathan Mitchell

Remind: You must join the course Remind group by texting @mth141-drj to 81010. This will be the predominant way we will communicate. This does not require that you disclose your phone number. Use this to ask questions, receive and read announcements, and find out quickly if I’m in my office if you like.

Email: mitchelljonat@sfasu.edu

YouTube Channel: www.YouTube.com/MathDoctorMitchell

Phone: 936-468-1606

Office: Math building 352

Class meeting time and place: MWF 9:00am-9:50am, room 203

Office Hours: Morning, Afternoon, or by appointment (Remind)

8 – 10AM TTh 1:30 – 3PM MTThF

I have an “open door” policy. When you come to visit, my office door stays open.

Course Description: This is a prep course for the calculus sequence. We study properties and graphs of algebraic, exponential, and logarithmic functions as well as their inverses, and will introduce trigonometric functions and radian measure.

Text and Materials

- Book: The required textbook is Precalculus: A Prelude to Calculus, 3rd edition, by Axler Wiley. ISBN 9781119321514

- Calculator: No graphing calculators will be allowed. You may use a non-graphing calculator during non-exam class days and at home (such as TI 30-XS Multiview) if you insist. However, it is likely that all calculators will be prohibited during exams.

Course Requirements

- No cell phone or device. When you arrive to class, put your cell phone on silent (or turn off) and place in the cell-phone caddy. Before any quiz or exam put away all smart watches.

- Homework— We will assign exercises from the textbook for each major topic in the course.

- Quizzes & Projects—We will have periodic in-class activities, quizzes, and group projects.

- Three in-class exams—If a student must miss an exam due to an excused absence, special arrangements should be made in advance. Student ID with photo may be required for exams.

- A cumulative final exam—The final exam is Monday, December 9, 8 – 10:30 AM

- Class attendance and participation – Students are expected to attend all class meetings, arriving on time. If you are absent, you are responsible for determining what you missed and for being prepared for class when you return. (see attendance policy)

- Preparing for class – Students should be prepared to invest several hours per day outside of class reading the text, practicing examples, and working homework exercises. Check your @jacks email and the Remind app daily, as I may send reminders, assignments, or announcements.
**Notes to the Student:** MTH 141 is a prep course for the calculus sequence at SFA which prepares you for calculus in the obvious way by reviewing prerequisite concepts and skills that you will need to retain for success in understanding the calculus. The other, less obvious way that MTH 141 prepares you for the calculus sequence is by getting you accustomed to a fast-paced, content-driven course. To do well in MTH 141, 142, and later in the calculus sequence, you need to keep up. That does NOT mean that you need to have mastered the material before the class even starts. It DOES mean that you need to try the homework each night to see if you can do it. If you can, great; keep rolling. If you cannot do the homework independently, seek help immediately the next day in class or during my office hours. **Please do not wait until the end of the semester if you need help. By that time, it is too late.**

**Grading Policy**

Your overall grade is determined by the following formula:

\[
0.12(HW) + 0.08(Quizzes) + 0.15(low\ Ex) + 0.18(mid\ Ex) + 0.22(high\ Ex) + 0.25(Final\ Exam)
\]

That is, it is a weighted average with the following weights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HW</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>90 – 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (1-3)</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>80 – 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>70 – 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60 – 69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend all class meetings, arriving on time.

- The door automatically locks when it is closed. If you arrive after the door is closed, then you will miss class and be counted absent.
- If you are absent, you are responsible for determining what you missed (see the schedule on Brightspace & then email or message me) and for being prepared for class when you return. Leaving class early will result in your being counted absent for the class session.
- Students that sleep in class, send or receive text messages, or conduct other activities on their phone during class will be counted absent. **There will not be any make-up quizzes.**
- **Extra Credit:** Points may be added to your overall numerical grade based on the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of Absences</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 – 1</td>
<td>absent/late/asleep/phone</td>
<td>+3 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 – 3</td>
<td>absent/late/asleep/phone</td>
<td>+2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>absent/late/asleep/phone</td>
<td>+1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 – 8</td>
<td>absent/late/asleep/phone</td>
<td>0 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9+</td>
<td>absent/late/asleep/phone</td>
<td>-50 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tips for Success:**

1. Attend every class. Take notes. Ask questions.
2. Be prompt and professional. Remove your phone heads. Put your phone away without being asked.
3. Check your Remind app and SFA email at least once per day. I will do the same.
4. Do all assigned HW exercises independently and promptly.
The following is an excerpt from SFA Policy 5.4:

The federal definition of a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or;

2. At least an equivalent amount of work as outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

To this end, all students in courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics that wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of two hours outside of class for every credit hour associated with this course. Expected activities to be completed in the time outside of class include reviewing notes from previous class meetings, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises and projects, and performing periodic assessment preparation.