



MAT 170: Precalculus

Overview

In this college-level precalculus course, you will prepare for calculus by focusing on quantitative reasoning and functions. You'll develop the skills to describe the behavior and properties of linear, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, rational, and trigonometric functions. This course tailors content and personalizes the learning experience around your skill level, allowing you to achieve mastery in a certain concept before moving on to the next. Utilizing the ALEKS learning system, students in this personalized course will be instructed on the topics they are most ready to learn. Individualized coaching is also provided as you move through each new topic.

What You'll Learn

- Use basic algebraic operations on numbers, expressions, and equations
- Solve real-world application problems
- Apply algebraic and trigonometric reasoning to solve a range of problems
- Begin future studies in calculus

How to Succeed

To be successful in this course, we recommend English language fluency and computer literacy. We also encourage you to make sure your laptop or desktop computer meets the [technical requirements](#).

Before taking this course, you should already have a strong understanding of algebraic skills such as factoring, basic equation solving, and the rules of exponents and radicals.

MAT 117 College Algebra is strongly suggested as a prerequisite for success in this course.

Earn College Credit

This course appears on your transcript identically to how it appears on the transcript of an enrolled ASU student.

This course satisfies 3 credit hours toward the Mathematics (MA) General Studies requirement at Arizona State University. It is strongly encouraged that you consult with your institution of choice to determine how these credits will be applied.

In order to receive academic credit for this course, you must earn a grade of "C" or better. You have one year to add the course to your transcript.

Exams and Grading

40%

Unit Quizzes

20%

Midterm Exam

40%

Final Exam

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Course Structure

MAT 170 is an adaptive class run in ALEKS (Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces). ALEKS uses adaptive questioning in the form of an Initial Knowledge Check (IKC) to determine exactly what a student knows and doesn't know upon entry into the course. ALEKS then instructs the student on the topics they are most ready to learn. As a student works through the course, ALEKS periodically reassesses the student to ensure that topics learned are also retained. This is done through Progress Knowledge Checks and Post Objective Knowledge Checks. By the end of the session, the student will have learned 390 topics across four units.

Graded Assignments

Graded assignments are required and count towards your final grade. Students must submit all assignments via the course site unless otherwise instructed.

Course Communication

All communication will take place via the discussion forums and course announcement page. There will be a discussion forum where you can post general questions, comments, and direct inquiries for the instructor and course team. Please use these forums to ensure a timely response. Your instructor will not be able to respond to email.

Additional Information

If you have questions about Universal Learner Courses and how they work, please visit ea.asu.edu or contact our support team at ulcourses@asu.edu.

Materials

This course makes use of open educational resources (OERs) provided within the course, **no purchase necessary**.

A handheld graphing calculator (such as the TI-83/84) is recommended and may be used on any exam in the class. If you would like to use an online calculator, these two are approved for use in exams:

- <http://dlippman.imathas.com/graphcalc/graphcalc.html>
- <https://calculatorpi.com/>

Instructor led Version

Instructor led courses have a structure with due dates that guide students to complete the course within 16 weeks. Instructor led courses are great for:

- Students who prefer a structured timeline with established due dates for assignments
- Students who enjoy interaction with other students, who will be completing assignments at the same time
- Students who are taking their first course online and may benefit from greater guidance

Time Commitment

This is an asynchronous, online course. This means, while you will have deadlines, you do not need to be at your computer at specific times or participate in live activities.

To be successful in this class, you must view all course pages and complete all graded work by the deadlines indicated. Also, keep in mind that "attendance" in an online course means logging into the platform on a regular basis, checking for course announcements, and visiting and participating in the discussion forums.

12 week Version

This 3 credit, 12 week course requires about 135 hours of work. Therefore, expect to spend approximately 12-15 hours per week preparing for and engaging in this course.

16 week Version

This 3 credit, 16 week course requires about 135 hours of work. Therefore, expect to spend approximately 8-10 hours per week preparing for and engaging in this course.

MAT 170: Continued

Instructor led Cont.

Assignment Deadlines

Your instructional team will provide all content and learning activities on or through your course site. It is your responsibility to review all content, fulfill all assignments on time, and ask any questions you have in the designated discussion area. It is also your responsibility to determine the due dates and times for all course assignments according to your time zone. Due to the large-scale format of Universal Learner Courses, late assignments will not be accepted at any point during the course, and we cannot make exceptions.

Self paced Version

Self paced courses allow students to complete course assignments at their own pace, as long as the course is completed within a year. Self paced courses are great for:

- Students who want to start right away
- Students who are self-directed and can set and stick to a plan for completing the course
- Students who may want to either go faster or slower than the instructor led version

Time Commitment

The work in this course is equivalent to an eight week course but you have one year to complete it. Please plan your goals accordingly. During this year, you are encouraged to work through the course at a pace that suits your needs.

You have one year from the date you enrolled to complete the course, and you have one year from the date you complete the course to purchase your academic credit.

Course Resets

Self paced courses cannot be reset. If you are not happy with your grade and want to take the course again, you have two options: you may take the course the next time it is offered in an instructor led format or wait until a new version of the self paced course opens at the beginning of every academic year on the first day of class in August.

Transcript

You will be able to add the course to your transcript **six weeks after enrolling**. Although the course is self paced, course attendance dates will be listed on your transcript. After purchasing the credits, the course will appear on your transcript in the session you **completed** the course. If you are on the cusp of two sessions and need to confirm the date of completion or beginning/end of a session, please contact our support team at ulcourses@asu.edu.