

MTH123-01: Elementary Functions
MWF 8:30-9:20 RS236

The essence of mathematics is not to make simple things complicated, but to make complicated things simple. ~S. Gudder

Dr. Ryan Botts

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Office Hours:

Office: RS228

MTWThF 1:30-2:45

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Course Details:

Text: *Calculus with Calculus Previews* by Zill and Dewar ISBN: 978-0763766313

Approx. \$30 used

Prerequisite: Mathematics 113 (or equivalent).

Catalog description: This course is designed to give a basic introduction to functions and skills necessary for the study of calculus. We will study polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, coordinate geometry, and graphing.

Learning outcomes:

1. Students will be able to understand polynomial, rational, trigonometric, exponential and logarithmic functions.
2. Students will be able to formulate solutions to problems involving the application of these functions.

Course Philosophy:

Mathematics is an active, creative subject, and as such your participation in activities and assignments is critical. Regardless of your background or previous experiences I aim to provide the necessary resources to assist you in achieving your goals for this course. If you have questions ask, if you need help ask.

I understand that you may feel that some topics that we cover have no practical application in your discipline, however the mathematical reasoning developed in this course is considered to be essential by those who have designed your education here at PLNU.

Grading:

The grade you earn in this course is an objective measurement of your mastery of course material. Your performance will be assessed in the following areas: homework (15%), quizzes and activities (10%), three midterm examinations (15% each) and a final exam (30%). Your overall score in the course will be computed using the following routine:

H	16 x _____ (total pts earned/possible)
Midterm 1	18 x _____ (% on exam)
Midterm 2	18 x _____
Midterm 3	18 x _____
Final Exam	30 x _____
Total (Sum)	_____

Your letter grade will be assigned using the following grading scale:

Grading Scale in percentages				
	A	B	C	D
+		(87, 90)	(77, 80)	(67, 70)
	[92, 100]	[82, 87]	[72, 77]	[62, 67]
-	[90, 92)	[80, 82)	[70, 72)	[60, 62)

Approximate grades will be posted at <http://eclass.pointloma.edu> so that you can monitor your progress.

- o **Homework and Activities (16%):** Learning mathematics is an active process, hence I will assign homework daily to give you credit for this activity and to help you stay on task during the semester. Homework will be slightly different than many of your previous math courses. You should be reading the section in preparation for the next day and practice problems from the current assignment. It is your responsibility to hand them in on time. I will try to keep eclass up to date on assignments so that you can find missing assignments on days you are absent.
- o **Midterm examinations (18% each):** This course is about learning skills and techniques that are required in calculus, examinations will be used to assess your mastery of the skills we have learned. Make-up exams will only be given in extreme documented emergencies. In such a case, contact your instructor as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in a score of 0 being assigned.
- o **Final exam (30%):** The final exam represents the final assessment of your understanding of the content in the course. It will be held on **Friday May 3 at 8:00 am. Presence at this time is required.**

Attendance:

Attendance is expected at each class section. In the event of an absence you are responsible for the material covered in class and the assignments given that day. See the Point Loma Nazarene University Catalog for a statement of the university's policy with respect to attendance. Remember that missing more than one and a half week's worth of classes can result in a failing grade.

Class Enrollment:

It is the student's responsibility to maintain his/her class schedule. Should the need arise to drop this course (personal emergencies, poor performance, etc.), the student has the responsibility to follow through (provided the drop date meets the stated calendar deadline established by the university), not the instructor. Simply ceasing to attend this course or failing to follow through to arrange for a change of registration (drop/add) may easily result in a grade of F on the official transcript.

Academic Accommodations:

While all students are expected to meet the minimum academic standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University, students requesting academic accommodations must file documentation with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. Once the student files documentation, the Disability Resource Center will contact the student's instructors and provide written recommendations for reasonable and appropriate accommodations to meet the individual needs of the student. This policy assists the University in its commitment to full compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of 1990,

and ADA Amendments Act of 2008, all of which prohibit discrimination against students with disabilities and guarantees all qualified students equal access to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities.

Students with learning disabilities who may need accommodations should discuss options with the instructor during the first two weeks of class.

Academic Honesty

The Point Loma Nazarene University community holds the highest standards of honesty and integrity in all aspects of university life. Academic honesty and integrity are strong values among faculty and students alike. Any violation of the university's commitment is a serious affront to the very nature of Point Loma's mission and purpose. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. Such acts include plagiarism, copying of class assignments, and copying or other fraudulent behavior on examinations.

Working with other students is encouraged on homework, however submitting homework that replicates someone else's work is considered cheating.

