

# Syllabus\*

## Precalculus

MATH 150 (secs. 001&002) • MW 12:00 – 12:50, TR 12:30 – 1:45 • BH 442

**Instructor:** Dr. Rick Mabry

**Office:**

Bronson Hall 416; 318-797-5352;  
MW 3:15–4:00pm, TR 9:00–9:30, and TR 10:45am-12:30pm.

Other hours can occasionally be arranged by appointment. Note my class hours below, all in BH 442.

**MW:** 10:00–10:50 (MATH 223); 12:00-12:50 (MATH 150); 4:00–5:15 (PHYS 335)

**TR:** 9:30–10:45 (MATH 223); 12:30–1:45 (MATH 150)

**F:** 2:00–whenever (MATH 398/498)

**Email, Web page:** rmabry AT lsus DOT edu, [www.lsus.edu/rick-mabry](http://www.lsus.edu/rick-mabry)

**Text:** Precalculus, 1<sup>st</sup> ed., by Paul Sisson (Hawkes Learning Systems). We'll cover most of the sections in chapters 3 through 8, and perhaps a few topics selected from chapters 9, 10, and 11. We will cover some topics that do not appear in the text. Some of the text topics are considered “review” and we shall blast through them accordingly. The list of topics associated with these sections can be seen on the Hawkes website for the textbook, here: [www.hawkeslearning.com/Products/Precalculus.htm](http://www.hawkeslearning.com/Products/Precalculus.htm)

**Catalog Description:** MATH 150: Precalculus 3 cr.

Prerequisite: MATH 121 or sufficiently high score on the mathematics part of the ACT or consent of the department. Relations, functions, and their graphs; polynomial functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; trigonometric functions; trigonometric identities and equations; laws of sines and cosines; polar coordinates and equations; and parametric equations. For qualified students, the course serves as a replacement for MATH 121 and 122 as a preparation for MATH 221. Credit will not be given for all three of MATH 121, 122 and 150, but credit may be given for any pair of these courses. Three hours of lecture and two hours of lab.

**You should have:** Graph paper, a scientific calculator (any kind), ruler, compass, protractor. The tools of the trade. Bring them every day. Warning: you will have no access to calculators during your exams.

**Grades:** There will be a three tests and a comprehensive final exam (see **Calendar**, on this syllabus, for dates). The lowest of the three test scores will be replaced with the grade on the final exam, if the grade on the final exam is higher, then the four scores will be averaged to compute the total exam score. Any test missed without a *valid and verifiable* excuse will be assigned a score of zero, and the previous scenario applies.

The total exam score as calculated above will constitute 80% of your final grade in the course. The remaining 20% will be based on a homework grade as computed using the Hawkes Learning Systems Student Courseware. This 80/20% split is on a per-test basis — the homework scores for sections associated with each test will be individually computed for each test.

The final grades will be assigned as follows:  $F < 50 \leq D < 60 \leq C < 75 \leq B < 90 \leq A$ .

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\*The instructor reserves the right to make announced changes as the semester progresses.

	Mon.	Jan. 14		First class. Howdy.
	Mon.	Jan. 21		Martin Luther King Holiday
	Fri.	Feb. 1	Last day to drop without W	
	Thu.	Feb. 7	<i>Test #1</i>	
	Mon.–	Feb. 11–		Mardi – (no
	–Tue.	–Feb. 12		–Gras classes)
	Thu.	Feb. 28		Last day to change to Audit
<b>Calendar:</b>	Tue.	Mar. 12	<i>Test #2</i>	
	Thu.	Mar. 28		Last day to withdraw with W
	Fri.	Mar. 29		Good Friday Holiday
	Mon.–	Apr. 1–		SPRING– (no
	–Fri.	–Apr. 5		–BREAK classes)
	Thu.	Apr. 11	<i>Test #3</i>	
	Thu.	May 2		Our last class. It’s been volumes of fun.
	Wed.	May 8	<i>FINAL EXAM</i>	@ 10:30 am

Final exam schedule:

[www.lsus.edu/offices-and-services/records-and-registration/final-exam-schedule](http://www.lsus.edu/offices-and-services/records-and-registration/final-exam-schedule)

**Math Help Lab:** Take advantage of free tutoring and computing power in the Math Help Lab, in BH 404. Tutor schedules (which might be in flux during the first few weeks) are posted on the lab door and the “hall monitor” near the elevator on our floor.

**Student Email and Moodle:** You can use the online Moodle system to check your test grades, send and receive class messages, etc. I send announcements using Moodle but may not post anything else of interest (except grades) on the Moodle pages.

*Check your official LSUS email daily* (or even dailier) to be sure you don’t miss important messages from me and others at LSUS. I’m told you can have LSUS email forwarded to another account of your choosing. [www.lsus.edu/student-email](http://www.lsus.edu/student-email)

A link to Moodle is here: <https://moodle.lsus.edu/>

I occasionally post items of interest here: [www.lsus.edu/sc/math/rmabry/math150](http://www.lsus.edu/sc/math/rmabry/math150)

I answer my email daily (seems more like hourly).

**Disability Services:** LSUS will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students must notify the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Student Development & Counseling Center (Administration Building, Room 227, 797-5365) and the instructor of any special needs.

**Code of Student Conduct:** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Students should familiarize themselves with the code of student conduct found in the Student Handbook. Some possible sanctions for violating the code may include:

- loss of credit for the work involved
- grade of F in the course
- separation from the university for one or more semesters
- expulsion from the university

The Student Handbook is online here:

[www.lsus.edu/offices-and-services/policies-and-manuals/student-handbook/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-conduct-code](http://www.lsus.edu/offices-and-services/policies-and-manuals/student-handbook/student-rights-and-responsibilities/student-conduct-code)