

# Syllabus for MAC 1147, Section 8308 – Summer 2014

**Instructor:** Toby Boas

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**Course Website:** <http://people.clas.ufl.edu/tboas/teaching/mac1147/>

**Office Hours:** In Little 435, Monday 11 AM - 12:15 PM,  
Thursday 11 AM - 12:15 PM,  
Friday 11 AM - 12:15 PM.

## Meeting Times and Location

The class will meet every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 12:30 PM to 1:35 PM (4th period) in LIT 233.

## Course Information and Content

Precalculus Algebra and Trigonometry, or MAC 1147, is fast-paced course which provides students with a review of concepts from algebra and trigonometry, with the aim of preparing students to take calculus (as the name suggests). There are no official prerequisites for this course, although it is assumed that the student has had some background in basic algebra before. The student should be able to perform elementary arithmetic operations **without** use of a calculator (there will be no calculators allowed in this course).

A minimum grade of C in MAC1147 satisfies four hours of the general education requirement and also satisfies the pure math portion of the state writing/math requirement. Also, successful completion of this course (a grade of C or better), will allow the student to progress to MAC2311, Analytical Geometry and Calculus 1 for Scientists and Engineers.

## Important Dates

**No class on:** 5/26 (Memorial Day), 6/23-6/27 (Summer Break) and 7/4 (July 4th),

**Withdrawal Deadline:** 8/1 at 5:00 PM,

**Final Exam:** 8/8 in class (possibly 8/7 if time permits).

## Textbook

Larson, *Precalculus* (9th Ed.). The textbook should be available at numerous local bookstores around town or online. The ISBN number of the book is 9781305046542.

## E-Learning Sakai

We will be using Sakai for most of our announcements, grades, and content for the semester. Please go to <http://lss.at.ufl.edu> to make sure you know how to navigate the site if you do not already know how to do so. To log in, use your Gatorlink ID and password. Make

sure you check the site regularly, as I will be making announcements on it from time to time. You can send me email through Sakai, but I prefer if you send it directly to my personal email. There is an option in the mail component of Sakai to “send a copy of this message to recipients’ email.” If you do use Sakai to contact me, please check that option so I will receive the message faster. I check my mail several times a day, but I do not check Sakai as regularly.

## **Attendance**

Attendance is extremely important. We will be covering new concepts and examples every day in class, so your attendance is a necessary requirement for you to do well in the course. I will not be officially taking attendance, but if you want to succeed you should aim to miss as few classes as possible. If you do have to miss a class, you will still be expected to know the material that we covered that day, so make sure you get the notes from someone or master the relevant sections we covered in the text. It is advisable for you to bring your book to class, so that you can reference the homework problems that we may discuss during the period.

## **Homework/Study Tips**

I will not be collecting any homework, however, doing the suggested homework problems is the single most important thing you can do to help you succeed in this course. I cannot stress this enough. If you only come to class and do not practice working out problems yourself you will be in for a rough time. Math is one of those things where you simply need to get your hands dirty and work things out on your own. It is of course good if you do all of the suggested homework, but it is definitely expected that you do at least enough of it so that you feel that you have mastered each of the possible types of problems/concepts involved.

Another important word of advice: don’t get into the habit of referencing the text too much while attempting problems. It is ok to reference the text/notes when you are first learning something, but remember that when it comes to the quizzes and exams you will not have a book there to help you, so make sure you can do problems completely on your own before an exam or quiz.

## **Grades/Methods of Evaluation**

Please make sure to regularly verify that the grade given to you on paper matches the grade given to you on Sakai. I do sometimes make mistakes when entering in grades, so it is important that you check to make sure the two grades agree. Please bring any discrepancies to my attention as soon as possible. Also, if you think something has been misgraded or you feel you deserve more points for your work, please feel free to come to me and I will look over your work again. Please do this quickly after you get your papers back, and not months later when you are trying to get more points for your final grade. Also, make sure you save all of the material which is handed back to you throughout the course of the semester.

## Breakdown of Points

Item	Points
Quizzes, best 8 out of 10 at 10 points each	80
Exams, best 3 out of 4, at 100 points each	300
Final Exam	120
Total	500

## Quizzes

We will have a short 15 to 20 minute quiz every week. The dates for the quizzes will typically be on Mondays but may be on other days and will be announced at least a week in advance if this is the case. The quizzes may be questions from your homework, or questions I create which are very similar to your homework. It follows that the best way to succeed on the quizzes is to make sure you are keeping up with all of the homework problems assigned. The two lowest quizzes will be dropped.

## Exams

There will be four exams and a final, all of which will be held in-class. I will give everyone at least one full week's notice before we have each exam. The lowest exam grade (not including the final) will be dropped. All exams will be free response (no multiple choice).

## Grading Scale

I will use the following grading scale at the end of the course to calculate your final grade (any fractional point values will be rounded up):

A	[450-500],	B	[400-419],	C	[350-369],	D	[300-319],
A-	[435-449],	B-	[385-399],	C-	[335-349],	D-	[285-299],
B+	[420-434],	C+	[370-384],	D+	[320-334],	E	[000-284].

## Extra Credit

Opportunities for extra credit may become available at my discretion. Any such opportunities will be made available to the entire class to ensure fairness. You should not count on this, however, as I will only do it if I feel the class performance warrants it.

## Receiving a Grade of Incomplete

A grade of I (incomplete) will be considered only if you meet the Math Department criteria which is found at <http://www.math.ufl.edu/departments/incomplete-grades/>. If you meet the criteria you must see me before the beginning of the final week of classes to be considered for the grade. A grade of I only allows you to make up your incomplete work. You cannot redo any previously completed work.

## Make-up Policy

Make-ups will be granted only in instances where the student has a valid, documented reason for missing the quiz or exam. Examples of such reasons include, but are not necessarily limited to, participation in an official UF sponsored event (with documentation), severe sickness accompanied by a doctor's note, participation in a personal religious holiday, or an important familial obligation such as a wedding or funeral. In order to receive a make-up on a quiz for one of the above reasons you **must** contact me **before** the next class meeting after the day you were absent. In order to receive a make-up on an exam for one of the above reasons you **must** contact me **before** the exam is held. There will be no exceptions to these rules due to the fact that 2 quizzes and 1 exam will be dropped.

## Advising and Help

Your first resource should be my weekly office hours. During my office hours, I can re-explain certain concepts in the course that you find difficult, help you with questions about the homework, and, most importantly, watch you work out problems so I can give you advice on what to do differently. Before you come to my office hours, I expect you to have at least looked at/attempted the material we will be discussing. You will learn much more if you do this.

In addition, here are some other possible options that you may want to consider:

- The Teaching Center Math Lab, located at SE Broward Hall. Find more info at <http://www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu>.
- You can find a list of math department tutors for hire at <http://www.math.ufl.edu/courses/> (click on mathematics department tutors).

## Honor Code

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines which have been accepted by the University. The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust and respect. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity.

## Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requesting accommodation must first register with the Disability Resource Center. More information can be found at <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>. Please inform me of any special needs you may have as soon as possible.

## Instructor Right to Change Syllabus

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to make reasonable changes to the syllabus if I deem it appropriate throughout the course of the semester.