



TEMECULA PREPARATORY SCHOOL

2024-25 AP PreCalc - Period 6

Meeting Times (Room 30)

- Monday: 11:36 am - 12:24 pm
- Tuesday: 11:28 am - 12:18 pm
- Thursday: 8:30 am - 10:03 am
- Friday: 11:28 am - 12:18 pm

Instructor Information: My name is Alberto Mendoza and I am teaching AP/Honors Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, and Algebra 1. This will be my third year teaching at TPS! I graduated from UCSD with a Bachelor's degree in Physics, with a specialization in Astrophysics!

- **School Phone #:** (951)926-6776, extension 1030.
- **Email:** amendoza@temeculaprep.com
- **Office Hours (Room 30):** Thursdays and Fridays from 3:40 to 4:40 pm

Course Topics: Linear, Rational, Exponential, Logarithmic, Trigonometric, Composite, Inverse, and Inverse Trigonometric Functions; Unit Circle; Trigonometric Identities; Vectors; Parametric Equations; Polar Coordinates; Sequences, Sums, and Series (also Limits if there's enough time!)

Course Website

Students can access the course website through their respective google classroom.

Required Materials: Each day students are expected to bring to class their notebook, pencils or blue/black pens for taking notes, their textbooks, and graphing calculators. It is recommended that students keep a notebook just for this class and get an extra notebook in advance (we take a lot of notes!).

Classroom Rules

- 1) Be Safe:** Mind the physical and emotional well-being of yourself and your classmates.
- 2) Be Respectful:** Refrain from talking over me or classmates. Respect the property of the school, myself, and your classmates. No gum or eating is permitted in class.
- 3) Be Responsible:** see the Academic Etiquette description above for specific examples. Whether it is a homework assignment or a test you should be showing as much of your work as possible.

Grading Categories

| Category | Grade Percentage | Description |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---|
| Academic Etiquette | 5% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend class on time with the required materials • Diligently taking notes • Participating in classroom discussions • Bring in completed homework in a timely fashion |
| Homework | 10% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually assigned daily and expected to be turned into google classroom the following day. • Not assigned on test days • The homework before quiz days will be quiz reviews • Homework corrections are expected to be performed if not 100% accurate (more on that later) |
| Quizzes/Socratic Seminars | 20% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short in-class assessments • 2-3 given per unit • No surprise quizzes • 3 Socratic Seminars throughout the year |
| Tests/Projects | 45% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Longer in-class assessments • 1 at the end of the unit • Study guides/review given in advance • 1-2 extended assignments to be completed outside of class |
| Final Exam | 20% | <p>1st Semester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 cumulative final at the end of the first semester <p>2nd Semester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 in-class extensive presentation about one of the taught topics/lessons • Honor Students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 Mock AP-PreCalculus Exam |

Daily Routine:

- 1) **Warm Up:** Students get out their homework and work on the Warm Up problem on the board.
- 2) **Review Homework:** Students may ask specific questions on the homework.
- 3) **Lesson OR Assessment:** On a typical day I give a lesson and the students participate and take notes. On an assessment day students take the scheduled quiz or test.
- 4) **Extra Time:** If there is extra time students may work on homework for this course. If this is not possible then they may work on assignments for other classes or read their English book. (Rarely will there be extra time to work on assignments from other classes, given that we'll be working on the homework with the spare time left throughout the lecture).

Policies

Extended Due Dates:

- If a student is absent (and this absence is excused) then they get an additional school day to turn in the assignment that was *due* on the missed day as well as an additional school day to turn in any assignment that was *assigned* on the missed day. Prolonged excused absences follow the same guidelines.

Grading Homework:

- Students receive credit on the homework as long as the following requirements are met:
 - All given problems are fully answered or partially attempted at the initial check-in of the homework during the Warm-Up.
 - A blank space never counts as an attempt and students are not penalized for wrong answers on the initial check-in.
 - Students will be graded on ACCURACY and provided work upon further inspection. During the review of homework solutions, students will mark how many problems they have obtained incorrectly, which then dictates their accurate homework score.
 - If homework corrections are not performed, the student's homework score will be left with the score that takes into account how many problems were incorrect.
 - All problems are corrected

Homework Corrections:

- Although homework is graded on accuracy, students will still be able to obtain FULL CREDIT on the homework by performing corrections!
- With the given statement about which problems were incorrect (as stated above), students will perform corrections on such specified problems by answering the following questions (one sentence per question is all that's needed):
 - What exactly did you make a mistake on?
 - Was your mistake conceptual or arithmetic? If conceptual, explain why your initial conceptual reasoning is incorrect compared to the correct conceptual explanation. (Looking at the notes might be useful!)
 - Perform the necessary corrective calculations to obtain the correct answer
- When students are performing corrections, they may look at the PROVIDED HOMEWORK SOLUTIONS for the homework in question so that they may identify their mistake clearly instead of butting their heads trying to figure out what they got wrong.

- Once corrections are made, students will obtain full credit for that assignment.
 - If students don't perform corrections, they will keep their original score that is based upon the accuracy of their initial attempt. This includes only copying the solutions rather than analyzing their initial mistakes.
- Homework corrections do not have a due date!
- Examples of homework corrections are provided on google classroom.

Late Homework:

- A homework assignment that is late by 1 day receives 0% credit of the accurate work. This policy is intended to keep students on track since each day of instruction relies on instruction from previous days.

Note:

- Life can often have their ups and downs, so I'm lenient as to whether a student can turn in their homework a bit later than expected. However, there must be ample communication between the student and I to gauge as to whether a homework extension is justified or not.

Grading Assessments:

- Student submissions on quizzes and tests will be graded according to correct final answers as well as student work that is shown. Correct final answers with no supporting work will receive at most half credit. Incorrect final answers with partially correct supporting work may receive up to half credit.
- Quizzes and Tests will be graded upon the AP Scale, which is dictated as follows:

| Initial Score Range | AP Score | Final Aeries Score |
|---------------------|----------|--------------------|
| 67% – 100% | 5 | 5/5 |
| 54% – 66.99% | 4 | 4/5 |
| 42% – 53.99% | 3 | 3/5 |
| 31% – 41.99% | 2 | 2/5 |
| 0% – 30.99% | 1 | 1/5 |

Note:

- If a student were to obtain an initial score range of 0% – 33.99%, where on their provided exam there is no visual work or attempted effort displayed, the option to perform corrections are nullified.
 - This will only take place upon further discussion with the student in question of what they believe they have performed during the exam.
 - This is to maintain the integrity of performing corrections (and getting a better score) to those who perform with honesty and effort.
- All Quizzes and Tests will be modeled after the previous AP Exams, where all questions are obtained from a question database containing all administered model questions similar to those on the AP Precalculus Exam.
 - Meaning...that the quizzes and tests are going to be a realistic depiction of the AP Precalculus Exam, including the difficulty!
- AP Exam Date: **May 13, 2025; 8:00 AM Local Time**

Socratic Seminars:

- Socratic Seminars will be an opportunity for students to delve into the philosophical foundations of Mathematics.
- Within such seminars, students are expected to complete the following:
 - Before the seminar starts, students will provide in-depth responses (about a paragraph consisting of 5 - 8 sentences) to questions that are provided before-hand. The responses must contain at least one citation to support developed claims.
 - During the seminar, students are expected to fully participate by providing individual responses and interactive responses to their peers. The students' participation will be graded upon a given rubric that assesses the students' conduct, speaking skills, reasoning, listening skills, and reading/preparation.

Make-Up Assessments:

- A student may make up a quiz or test if they had an excused absence on the day of that assessment. Students have one week to make up a quiz or test and must schedule with me and time to make it up outside of the usual class time (e.g. lunch, office hours).
- A student may make up a socratic seminar by having a one-on-one philosophical conversation with the instructor during either office hours or lunch. Students have one week to make up a missed socratic seminar.
- If a student does not make up a missing assessment within a week then they will receive zero credit on that assessment.

Retake Tests:

- Only 1 Test retake will be offered throughout the entire year.
- Students may perform Quiz corrections to gain only half of the points that they've missed. (Quiz corrections will follow the same answering format as the homework corrections).
 - No Test Corrections!

Missing Assignments & Detention:

- Every 3 missing assignments equals an after school detention.

Testing & Academic Honesty:

- Students are expected to take quizzes and tests independently and without the aid of textbooks, class notes, or classmates. Existing testing accommodations for select students are the only exception to this rule.
- Calculators will be allowed and/or required for certain assessments.
- A student who cheats on an assessment will receive zero credit, lose Academic Etiquette points, and be subject to further consequences.

Office Hours & Academic Etiquette:

- Students who attend office hours regularly may receive extra credit under the Academic Etiquette category. The amount of extra credit given is up to the teacher's discretion.

Responding to Emails:

- I will respond to any email sent to me by 5:30 PM that same day. Emails sent after 5:30 PM may or not be acknowledged until the following school day.

Please review this syllabus with a parent or guardian, sign and remove the portion below the dashed line, and turn in the removed portion with the signatures to your teacher.

I acknowledge the expectations, and agree to the policies, stated in this syllabus.

_____ (Student Signature) (Date)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)