PreCalculus for Calculus (Precalc Boot Camp)
Instructor: Dr. Sherry Scarborough
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Emails: Please include your name and Boot Camp in the subject line of all emails, so I can best help you.
Dr. Sherry’s Web Site: http://www.math.tamu.edu/~Sherry.Scarborough/
PreCalc Boot Camp Web Site: http://www.math.tamu.edu/~sherry.scarborough/precal_for_calc.html
Calculator Policy: Since you will not be allowed to use calculators in your calculus course, you will need to be able to do all of the precalculus work without a calculator.
Class Times: June 23 – July 18 (no class July 4th), MTWRF 3:30 – 5pm
Classroom: Virtual, on the internet via videoconferencing

Topic Covered
- Algebra review, including factoring; exponents, roots, and radicals
- Solving equations, including quadratic, quadratic-like, rational, absolute value, and radical
- Solving inequalities, including sign charts
- Functions, including domain, compositions, decompositions, inverses, and transformations
- Understanding and applying the difference quotient to functions
- Polynomials, including factoring (by grouping and by special products) and finding the max/min
- Rational functions, including domain, range, intercepts, asymptotes, holes
- Complex numbers
- Exponential functions
- Logarithmic laws and functions
- Solving exponential and logarithmic equations
- Trigonometry, including functions, graphs, inverses, Law of Sines, Law of Cosines, identities, solving equations
- Vectors including arithmetic, unit vectors, dot product, angle between two vectors
- Parametric equations
- Polar coordinates, including polar form of complex numbers
- If time allows: limit laws, partial fraction decomposition and conic sections

Methods Employed
- Videoconferencing
- MyMathLab for Schulz’ Precalculus: Pearson's online homework, tutorial, and assessment system, MyMathLab (MML) gives you the tools you need to successfully master your course concepts. The personalized learning path MML creates based on your MML initial diagnostic assessment will provide you with homework based on your own specific needs. This allows the system to meet you where you are and guide you to a place of mastery on the content. You can also use online tools, such as video lectures, animations, and a multimedia textbook, to independently improve your understanding and performance.
- Learning Catalytics: A “bring your own device” student engagement, assessment, and classroom intelligence system. Assesses students in real time, using open-ended tasks to probe student understanding. Students use any modern web-enabled device they already have — laptop, smartphone, or tablet.
- Scarborough’s special-topic streaming videos on precalculus concepts for the precalculus and calculus students

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