Howdy! Welcome to Texas A&M University and to the PreCalc Chronicles, designed to help you succeed! This weekly newsletter will remind you of key points from the previous week, let you know what’s coming up, to give you resources and study tips, and to keep you motivated and focused.

I. Math 150 Lecture and Lab
   • You will either have lecture 2/wk (Tues/Thurs or Mon/Wed) or 3/wk (Mon/Wed/Fri).
   • Lecture is taught by a math instructor. The name of my instructor is: ________________.
   • You will have lab once a week, every week, including the first week of class.
   • Lab is led by a TA (teaching assistant) under the guidance of your Math 150 instructor.
   • The name of my TA is: ________________.
   • The first week of class you will be told about WebAssign, from which you can access your electronic Math 150 textbook and your required online homework.

II. Your First Week
   • Know where your lecture and lab classrooms are before classes start! One of the top reasons a student misses class or lab the first week is that he/she could not find his/her classroom. Room assignments often change, so check your TAMU student schedule right as school starts. My lecture meets in ________________, and my lab meets in ________________.
   • Come to class ready to take notes. Bring paper and pencil (and lecture outlines if available).
   • Read your Math 150 first day handout (syllabus).
   • Pay close attention to any announcements given by your instructor and TA.
   • Find out what to do in the event of an absence.

III. Profile of a Successful Student
   • This is NOT high school! Just going to class and/or last minute cramming does not work.
   • Realizes the pace of college is at least twice as fast as high school.
   • Knows that in college you will do a lot more learning outside the classroom.
   • Bookmarks their instructor’s Math 150 web page.
   • Attends ALL lectures and ALL labs and takes complete notes!
   • Knows that math is learned by working problems and not just by watching others do math.
   • Plans on studying mathematics 9 hr/week.
   • Works all the Week-In-Review (WIR) problems each week before seeing the solutions.
   • Attends office hours when they do not understand a concept or homework problem.
   • Attends help sessions to get extra help on homework OR visits their instructor.
   • Strives to understand the concepts and not just how to do one particular math problem.
   • Learns from his/her mistakes.
   • Keeps up with the class.
   • Does homework problems from the current material as well as keeps refreshed on older material.
   • Brings his/her notes, pencil, and eraser to each lecture and lab.
   • Forms a study group if that method is helpful to his/her learning.

IV. Quotes and Jokes
   • \[ \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5} = \frac{\sqrt{8}}{8} = \sqrt{=} \]
   • "Being a diligent faculty member, Professor Smith makes sure that he provides ample office hours."