

# MATH 0120 N3: Advanced Pre-University Mathematics

[Dashboard](#) / [Courses](#) / [MATH 0120 N3 Home](#) / [MATH 0120](#) / [Syllabus - web page](#)

## Syllabus - web page

### Course Overview

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Many students come to university without the prerequisite math courses or knowledge that they need in order to be admitted into the mathematics and statistics courses necessary for their program. It is for this reason Acadia University offers pre-university level math courses. Math 0120 is a pre-calculus course. So, I assume that most people taking this course will go on and take a calculus course.

Before I tell you what you will learn in this course, let's answer the question: "What is calculus?" Roughly speaking, calculus is the mathematics we use to analyze things that are changing. Scientists collect data. Mathematicians find formulas that describe this data. Then mathematics can be used to gain more insight about the data and the processes that are at work. We use calculus to determine how fast something is increasing or decreasing, where the maximum or minimum occurs, if the process is increasing at an increasing rate or a decreasing rate, how much change will take place after a certain amount of time and so on.

The concepts in calculus are relatively simple. But solving the problems themselves is not so simple if you are not comfortable with solving equations and manipulating expressions. It is a widely held opinion that the hardest thing about calculus is having the algebraic skill it takes to do the problems. Another prerequisite for calculus is to have the repertoire of functions used to describe the changing quantities of interest. The list is actually quite short. The functions that you need to understand are: the linear function, the quadratic function, the polynomials in general, power functions, trigonometric functions, exponential functions. Then there are the inverses of the trigonometric functions and the inverses of the exponential functions (which are logarithms).

You will have the opportunity to strengthen your understanding of these topics by taking this course. You will probably have seen portions of everything in your grade 11 and/or 12 math courses. Since you are choosing to invest your time (and money) in taking this course, I know that you are determined to be successful! I am on your side in this endeavour.

My thanks are shared with Latonya Ferguson (student Math 0120 [2016-2017]) who provided the content for the Student Rough Notes portion of these on-line materials. These notes served to give me ideas of areas to highlight and where to provide extra support for you.

### Instructor

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I love teaching Students and Mathematics! I have taught Mathematics (Grades 4-12) in the public school system for seventeen years prior to expanding my professional practice to Administration and as the Technology Integration Consultant in one of our Nova Scotia School Boards. I have been teaching students and their teachers at the University level for nearly 4 decades. In addition, I have been developing, and delivering, on line classes for a number of years. Please feel free to contact me via email if you believe I can assist you with any aspect of the course.      jim



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## Course Materials

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**Text: Pre Calculus Mathematics For Calculus 7th Edition, Authors: Stewart, Redlin, Watson (ISBN-13: 9781305071759)**

**Web Assign [An on-line tool for practicing, and developing our skills]**

**Please note that a Web Assign license, like your course enrollment, is time bound.**

See the [student handbook](#) for ordering information.

To access Library Articles and Journals from off-campus use [VPN](#) web service link for direct access.

## Evaluation

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WebAssign	15'
Written Assignments	35'
Examination	50'
	100'

The assignments are delivered to the instructor via assignment drop-boxes. Please remember to put your name, student number, course number, and assignment number on the assignment and keep a copy in the event the original is lost.

The last assignment should be received at least 4 weeks prior to the date you wish to write the exam. This will allow adequate processing time for the request, and for setting the exam.

Note files must be readable by Excel 2007 or Word 2007.

*Please note that you must pass the final examination to get credit for the course.*

## Course Schedule

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**Click to download the suggested schedule for this course: [MATH 0120 N2 - Suggested Schedule](#)**

Print out this schedule and fill in your start date to use the recommended timeline to plan out when you will do readings and assignments. This is a tool to help you plan and time manage this course. If you get off-track, make sure to revisit your schedule and re-evaluate the dates you've set for yourself.

You have 6 months to complete this course. You may set your own schedule, but if you intend to complete the course in less than 3 months, you should let me know so that we can arrange a schedule.

Please do not leave all of your course work until a few weeks before your completion date. Although I will make every effort to accommodate your schedule within reason, I need time to grade assignments and mark exams..

### Quick Overview: Recommended Schedule

Week 1-4	Module 1
Week 5-7	Module 2
Week 7-9	Modules 3,4
Week 10-12	Modules 5,6

## Exam

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How to apply: Complete the [Application for Examination](#)

### Proctored at Acadia

- The final exam in an online course must be passed to successfully pass the course unless otherwise stated in the assessment section of the course syllabus. There are no rewrites or supplemental examinations at Acadia University.
- Examination requests must be received one month prior to the date you wish to write your examination.
- Course requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of your instructor.
- **Graduating Students Note:** If you are graduating in Spring Convocation you must write by April 15th. If you are graduating in Fall Convocation you must write by September 15th.

### Proctored at Another Location

If it isn't practical to take your exam at Acadia, off-campus exams can be written at another university or college. Arrangements for an examination may be made through the Registrar's Office or the Continuing Education office of most universities and colleges. If it is not possible to write your exam at an approved institution, please contact us for assistance.

- **All fees associated with examinations written at other locations are your responsibility.**
- Some courses may require specific software or internet accessibility at the off-campus examination location.

## Student Handbook

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You are responsible for becoming familiar with the contents of the Student Handbook. It contains important information about scheduling examinations (if applicable), applying for extensions, withdrawing from your course, ordering books, and computer and library services available to you. If you have questions about the policies outlined in the [handbook](#), contact:

Open Acadia  
21 University Avenue (Rhodes Hall)  
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6  
Phone: 1-800-565-6568  
Fax: 902-585-1068  
Email: [openacadia@acadiau.ca](mailto:openacadia@acadiau.ca)

## Academic Integrity

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Academic integrity demands responsible use of the work of other scholars. It is compromised by academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism. A student who is uncertain whether or not a course of action might constitute cheating or plagiarism should seek in advance the advice of the instructor involved.

- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

[Click here to return to the Module](#)



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[◀ Course Introduction - video](#)

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[Social - forum ▶](#)

