

# Math 108g - Contemporary Precalculus

4 units, Fall 2017, MWF 11:00-11:50 am in VKC 152

## Contact information

- **Instructor:** Christian Zillinger
  - **Office hours:** W 12- 3 or by appointment
  - **Office:** KAP 416F
  - **email:** zillinge@usc.edu
- **Teaching Assistant:** Keenan Hawekotte
  - **Consulting hours:** M 12-1, Tu 12-1, Th 10-11
  - **Location:** Math Center, KAP 263
  - **email:** hawekott@usc.edu

## Course description

In this course we are going to learn about some of the fundamental concepts and tools of calculus. This includes getting familiar with several classes of functions, equations and inequalities, working with graphs and using models in applications.

**Prerequisite:** MATH 040 or passing of placement exam.

## Textbook

Hungerford. Contemporary Precalculus.

## Blackboard

Materials such as **homework problems** or **results** of homeworks and midterms or **announcements** will be posted on blackboard, <http://blackboard.usc.edu> . You should **check blackboard regularly**.

## Description and Assessment of Assignments

There will be weekly **homework** sets. New homeworks are usually made available on blackboard on Wednesdays and should be handed in the discussions on the following Thursday. Discussion and collaboration is strongly encouraged, but only individual, independent submissions will be accepted.

**Two midterms** will be administered in-class on **Monday, October 2** and **Friday, November 3**.

The final exam will take place on **Wednesday, December 6** as indicated in the schedule of classes <https://classes.usc.edu/term-20173/finals/> .

## Grading breakdown

Assignment	% of Grade
Homework	15%
Midterm I	25%
Midterm II	25%
Final Exam	35%
<b>Total</b>	100%

These weights might still change in the beginning of term for consistency with other sections.

## Assignment Submission Policy

Homework sets will be made available on Blackboard and are due in discussions on Tuesday in the following week.

## Additional Policies

In the interest of fairness to all students, there will be no make-up exams and late homework will not be accepted without prior approval by the instructor. In case of scheduling conflicts or emergencies, you should contact me as early as possible (at least two weeks; for sudden sickness at least before the scheduled time).

For exams, you will be allowed to bring a scientific calculator (not graphing, not programmable).

## Getting help

If you have any feedback, problems, questions or want to chat, please do not hesitate to drop by at my office. Learning mathematics requires active practice and it can be very difficult to catch up again, so I encourage you to come by already early in the semester.

The Math Center, <http://dornsife.usc.edu/mathcenter>, is located in KAP 263 and is intended to give students a place to work on homework and get help from graduate students. During the Spring and Fall semesters, the Math

Center is open Monday to Thursday 8am to 7pm and Friday 8am to 5pm. The TA's consulting hours will take place in the math center.

## **Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems**

### **Academic Conduct**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in SCampus in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards, <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct>.

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the Office of Equity and Diversity <http://equity.usc.edu> or to the Department of Public Safety <http://adminopsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety>. This is important for the safety of the whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. The Center for Women and Men <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage <http://sarc.usc.edu> describes reporting options and other resources.

### **Support Systems**

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the American Language Institute <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. The Office of Disability Services and Programs [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home\\_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information <http://emergency.usc.edu> will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.