

# Mathematics 1613: Trigonometry

Spring 2013 Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Dr. John Paul Cook

**Office:** Austin Hall Room 110a

**Office Hours:** Monday 10:10am-11:10am, 2pm-5pm

Tuesday 3:00pm-5:00pm

Wednesday 10:10am-11:10am

Thursday 3:00pm-5:00pm

Friday 10:10am-11:10am

If my regular office hours do not fit your schedule, please feel free to arrange another time to meet. I also have an open door policy – please feel free to drop in anytime the door is open. Success for my students is a very high priority for me, and *helping my students learn mathematics is a pleasure, not an inconvenience.*

**Email:** [jpcook@usao.edu](mailto:jpcook@usao.edu)

**Phone:** (405) 574-1279

**Course Website:** All course documents will be posted at [www.johnpaulcook.com](http://www.johnpaulcook.com).

**Textbook (required):** *College Algebra and Trigonometry, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition* by Levitan, Kolman, and Shapiro

## **Grading:**

3 Midterm Exams (3 x 20% each)	60% of overall grade
Final Exam	20% of overall grade
Classwork (Quizzes)	20% of overall grade
Total	100%

**Exams:** The exact dates for the three midterm exams will be announced at least one week ahead of time in class. Each student is expected to be present for each exam. If you have to miss an exam for an unavoidable, legitimate, and documented reason, you may be granted the opportunity to schedule a makeup exam. You are much more likely to be granted a make-up exam if you let me know about your excused absence (and provide documentation) *before* the exam.

**Classwork: Quizzes and Homework:** Attendance will be taken in the form of daily quizzes. A typical quiz will consist of problems taken directly from (or very similar to) those worked in class or the homework assignment.

Each quiz will be worth 20 points. You will receive 8 points simply for being present in class to take the quiz. This means that half of every quiz is based solely on effort!

*There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes.* At the end of the term, two quiz grades will be dropped to account for excused absences. If you have less than two absences at the end of the term, these drops will be applied to your lowest quiz grades.

**Participation:** This class is taught in a small-group format with activities and discussions. The attendance and participation of each student is critical to making this style of learning a success. You are expected to

actively engage in your own learning and the learning of others. Attend class, follow directions by working hard and participating in class, write class journals and comments when expected, and volunteer regularly to share your knowledge with the class.

**Grading Scale:** This class is graded on the standard 10-point scale. Let  $x$  represent the percentage of total points earned:

$$\text{A: } 90\% \leq x \leq 100\%$$

$$\text{B: } 80\% \leq x < 90\%$$

$$\text{C: } 70\% \leq x < 80\%$$

$$\text{D: } 60\% \leq x < 70\%$$

$$\text{F: } x < 60\%$$

Please feel free to see me at any point in the semester if you have questions regarding your grade.

Note: Exams and final grades will not be curved or adjusted. Earn the grade you want!

### **Additional Course Policies:**

**The best way to learn mathematics is to regularly do mathematics yourself.** Mathematics is not a spectator sport, and it is not mastered by watching someone else work problems. As you know, math is not easy, and the best way for you to learn it, in addition to participating in class, is to work a large amount of problems on a regular basis. Generally speaking, 1 hour of undergraduate level credit corresponds to 1 hour in class and 2 hours outside class (this is why 15 hours is considered “full time” – 45 total hours). Please note that working the assigned homework problems does not guarantee a mastery of the material – the amount of practice needed for each concept will be different for each student. In most cases, the assigned homework is the *minimum*. Among other benefits, this will help you to stay current with the material being covered in class. Cramming is not an effective way to study mathematics! Studying two hours a day over seven days, for example, is far more effective than seven hours a day over two days.

**A note about how we will use the textbook:** Because the presentation of the material in class follows ideas that originate from you, the students, we will often deviate from the textbook. Additionally, we may jump around and/or skip topics from the textbook as it fits our needs. I will make every attempt possible to reference which section(s) of the textbook we are covering. As such, the textbook is not a replacement for your class notes, which should be used as the primary authoritative source for this class. Homework assignments will also come from the textbook.

**Phone and laptop policy:** As discussed above in the ‘participation’ section, portable electronic devices are not to be used during class without explicit permission from me because they are a distraction, both to me and to other students. Please turn off all devices and keep them out of sight until the end of class.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Until January 11th, there is no record of a grade for dropped courses. From January 12th through February 8th, you will receive an automatic W for a dropped course, *no matter what scores you have so far achieved*. From February 9th until April 5th, requests to drop the course will be handled as follows: if you are currently passing the course (D or higher), you will receive a W. Otherwise, you will receive an F. This is not negotiable. *Avoidance of a failing grade is not sufficient reason to obtain a W.* The class may not be dropped after April 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you have a documented disability that you feel will prevent you from reaching your full potential in this class, please notify me as soon as possible.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Academic dishonesty in any form is a violation of the Academic Code of Conduct and will not be tolerated. There is a zero-tolerance policy in this course for any form of plagiarism, fabrication, cheating, forgery, or any other type of academic dishonesty. For more on the Academic Code of Conduct, please see the student handbook: <http://www.usao.edu/home/student-services/student-handbook>.