

MATH 201

Elementary Functions

Section EC

Fall 2023

This syllabus is subject to change and any changes will be posted in the Announcements section of your eConcordia portal.

Disclaimer: In the event of extraordinary circumstances, and pursuant to Academic Regulations, the University may modify the delivery, content, structure, form, location and/or evaluation scheme of this course. In the event of such extraordinary circumstances, students will be informed of the change.

About the Course

What is MATH 201?

MATH 201 is a course offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. It is intended to give students a solid foundation in pre-calculus to succeed in future science-level mathematics courses.

The first half of the course explores various functions such as linear functions, quadratic functions, rational functions, exponentials, and logarithms. The second half is about trigonometry, the branch of mathematics devoted to the relationships between the sides and angles of a triangle. Real-life applications of functions and trigonometry will also be covered.

There are no tutorials for this online section of MATH 201.

Note:

- *Students who have received credit or exemption for MATH 203 or equivalent, or for a course having MATH 203 or equivalent in its sequence of prerequisites, may not take this course for credit.*
- *Students in programs leading to the BSc degree or the BA programs in Mathematics and Statistics may not take this course for credit to be applied to their program of concentration.*

Instructor

Tom Hughes

E-mail: math201@econcordia.com

You can e-mail your instructor if you have general inquiries, or if there is a delay in hearing back from your Teaching Assistant (TA). Please include the following information in all of your e-mail communications:

- Full name
- Concordia student ID number
- Course number pertaining to your inquiry (i.e. MATH 201)

Course Material

The learning material for this course, as well as links to the assignments and midterm test are all available on the eConcordia website: www.econcordia.com.

Course Website

To access the course website, log in at www.econcordia.com and find MATH 201 in your *My Courses* list. On your eConcordia homepage you will see a link called *Course Website*. Clicking on that link will take you to the page that contains the learning material for this course.

Your eConcordia account will be valid until the end of the term for which you are registered. Your account will give you access to the online course material (videos, self-assessments, Discussion Board, graded assessments, and additional resources) on the course website for the duration of the term.

Lesson Structure

In the Course Website, the learning material is divided into eleven lessons, along with an additional “Lesson 0” that contains an introductory video and a pdf document that reviews basic algebra concepts.

- **Lesson 1:** Analytic Geometry
- **Lesson 2:** Introduction to Functions
- **Lesson 3:** Combining Functions
- **Lesson 4:** Quadratic and Rational Functions
- **Lesson 5:** Exponential Functions and Logarithms (Part I)
- **Lesson 6:** Exponential Functions and Logarithms (Part II)
- **Lesson 7:** Measuring Angles
- **Lesson 8:** Introduction to Trigonometry
- **Lesson 9:** Trigonometric Functions
- **Lesson 10:** Trigonometric Equations
- **Lesson 11:** Oblique Triangles

Within each lesson you will find:

- **Lecture and Example videos:** The pre-recorded lecture videos for each topic of the course are meant to simulate a class lecture. There are also videos showing how to solve example problems. The lesson videos cannot be downloaded or viewed offline.
- **Self-Assessment Questionnaire:** The 10-question self-assessments are there for you to practice each lesson's content. These are not graded and can be attempted as often as necessary. Detailed solutions are provided for every question.
- **Assignments:** Each lesson concludes with an assignment. These assignments count towards your final grade. More details are provided in the **Assessments** section of this course outline.

Textbook

There is an optional textbook for the course, titled *An Investigation of Functions*, Edition 1.5 by David Lippman and Melonie Rasmussen. This online book can be downloaded at the following link: <http://www.opentextbookstore.com/precalc/>

You can use this book for extra practice. Some recommended problems from the book will be posted along with solutions throughout the term.

Assessments

The graded assessments for this course are:

- **Eleven (11) online Assignments**, on the platform WeBWork
- The **Midterm Test**, on the Concordia Moodle page
- The **Final Exam**, in-person, on campus

Assignments

There will be 11 assignments – one for each lesson in the course – to complete on the online platform called **WeBWork**.

You will have, as a rule, two weeks to complete each assignment. An assignment will open on the same day as its respective lesson, and will close two weeks later.

The due dates of all assignments are listed in the **Agenda** at the end of this course outline.

There will be no accepted reason for missing an assignment (including illness or computer issues). Please note, however, that the lowest scoring assignment out of the 11 will be dropped, so that only 10 out of the 11 assignments will count towards your final grade.

Instructions for accessing and logging into WeBWork, as well as a guide on how to use WeBWork, can be found in the Assessments section of the Course Website.

Midterm Test

The Midterm Test will be done **online**. It will cover **Lessons 1 to 6** and will take place on **Wednesday November 8**.

The test will take place on the **Concordia Moodle** page, accessible only in the Assessments section of the Course Website.

The test will be accessible from 9:00 AM to 11:59 PM (ET) on the day of the test.

Once you begin, you will have 75 minutes to complete the test, **or until it closes** at 11:59 PM (ET), whichever comes first.

You will need a calculator, and pen & paper to work out the answers.

You should complete the midterm using an up-to-date web browser. Do not exit the midterm test window until you have answered all the questions and have been given your result.

Note: It is the Department's policy that tests missed for any reason cannot be made up. If you miss either midterm test because of illness, the final exam will count for 90% of your final grade,

and the assignments will count for the remaining 10%. In such cases, a medical note or certificate must be sent to your instructor **as soon as possible**.

**Students registered with Concordia's Access Centre for Students with Disabilities (ACSD) will have the duration of their midterm tests automatically adjusted.*

Final Exam

The Final Examination will be held **in-person**. The exam will cover all of the material in the course (from **Lessons 1 to 11**).

Note: You are responsible for finding out the date and time of the final exam once the schedule is posted by the Examinations Office. Conflicts or problems with the scheduling of the final exam must be reported directly to the Examinations Office, not to your instructor.

Note: To pass MATH 201 EC, you must receive a minimum score of 50% on the final exam.

Calculators

Only calculators approved by the Department (with a sticker attached as a proof of approval) are permitted for the final exam. For a list of Approved and Not-approved calculators, see: www.concordia.ca/artsci/math-stats/services.html

Evaluation Scheme

Your final grade will be the HIGHER of the grades calculated using the following two options:

Option A

- Assignments 10%
- Midterm Test 25%
- Final Exam 65%

Option B

- Assignments 10%
- Midterm Test 10%
- Final Exam 80%

Note: To pass MATH 201, you must receive a minimum score of 50% on the final exam.

Letter Grades

The following table shows the percentage to letter grade conversion for MATH 201:

Letter	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	
% Score	90-100	85-89	80-84	77-79	73-76	70-72	
Letter	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
% Score	67-69	63-66	60-62	57-59	53-56	50-52	<50

Your final letter grade for the course will be posted in your Student Hub at the end of the term.

Communication and Extra Help

Teaching Assistants

Due to the large number of students enrolled in this course, you will be assigned a Teaching Assistant (TA) by week 2. Their contact info (email address) will be posted on your eConcordia homepage.

TAs will help you with your studies, especially with any math questions you have, however, they are not required to help you with technical issues.

Please include the following information in all of your e-mail communications with your TA:

- Full name
- Concordia student ID number
- Course number pertaining to your inquiry (i.e. MATH 208)

Please allow for a 24-hour response time during the week (Monday-Friday). TAs check their messages once over a 48-hour weekend period, and are not available on statutory or university holidays.

Save a copy of all e-mail correspondence for the duration of the term and until you have received your final letter grade for the course.

You are expected to be polite at all times. Communications that do not meet this requirement will not be answered.

Discussion Board

As of 2:00 PM on the first day of class, a Discussion Board will be activated and accessible from the *Discussion Board* link on the eConcordia homepage.

The Discussion Board is the ideal place for you to ask questions about anything that is unclear about the course material. While the TAs are responsible for answering questions (the instructor will monitor and moderate discussions), **all students** are encouraged to read and answer the posted questions.

Here are some guidelines to follow for posting on the Discussion Board:

- Do not post any personal information on the discussion board.
- Keep all posts and questions pertinent to the course material.
- Questions about grades or questions of a personal nature must be addressed directly to your TA or instructor.
- You can ask or answer questions about the concepts taught in the course, the self-assessments, the textbook, examples from videos, or even using your calculator.

- **Do not ask others to solve your assignment problems for you**, though asking for a hint or help getting started is acceptable.
- Read the other postings to confirm that your question has not already been asked and answered.
- Be respectful. Refrain from making offensive statements and derogatory comments.
- Students who fail to respect these rules will be asked to leave the discussion. It is within our discretion and authority to remove or edit any posting at any time.

Note: The Discussion Board will be closed on the day of the midterm test.

If a question that you posted on the Discussion Board does not get answered or resolved in a timely manner, please e-mail your TA.

If you have a very specific issue (such as WeBWorK not accepting your answer), please e-mail your TA and attach a screenshot of your work so that your TA can identify your problem.

Office Hours

In fairness to students who live out-of-town, the instructor and the TAs have no in-person office hours. However, students may request on-line office hours with either their TA or the instructor.

E-mail correspondence and the Discussion Board are the preferred means of communication.

Announcements

The Announcements are the instructor's means of communicating important changes and updates to you on a regular basis. Please keep up to date by reading the announcements on a weekly basis. The announcements can be found at the centre of your eConcordia homepage.

To receive announcements in your email inbox, click on *My Profile* -> *Edit Profile* on the eConcordia homepage, select the box next to ***I would like to receive course announcements by email*** (below your personal information), and click **Update**.

Math Help Centre

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics has a free Math Help Centre for students enrolled in MATH 201 where you can ask a tutor for one-on-one help. The tutors at the Math Help Centre are graduate students in mathematics who will help you with particular questions, explain things to you, and give you hints and insight. Its schedule of operation will be posted by Week 2 in the Department and on the Department webpage: <https://www.concordia.ca/artsci/math-stats/services/math-help-centre.html>

Student Success Centre

Concordia University's Success Centre (<https://www.concordia.ca/students/success.html>) offers a variety of resources to students. Visit <https://www.concordia.ca/students/success/learning-support/math-help.html> to learn about available resources.

To book an appointment for one-on-one tutoring for MATH 201, you can go to: <https://www.concordia.ca/students/success/learning-support/math-help.html#tutoring>

Study Habits

To succeed in an online course, good study habits are essential. A learner who is motivated, self-disciplined, and has good organizational skills will be able to progress normally in the course. Here are some tips to help you succeed:

- Set aside some specific days and times to work on the course.
On average, a student should spend **six hours per lesson** in MATH 201. This time should be spent watching (and re-watching) the video lectures and examples, working on the self-assessment, and completing the assignments.
Note that six hours is an estimate only and should be adjusted based on your ability to learn the material. More time will be needed to study for the midterm and final exam.
- Complete your work early in the week so that you have time to e-mail your TA if you have any questions.
- Do NOT wait until the last day before a deadline to complete an assessment. Use the agenda to help you plan ahead.
- As you work through each lesson, write down the important formulas and procedures that you learn.
This will keep you alert while you watch the videos, and it will also make it easier for you to study for the exams.

Technical Help and Support

eConcordia Help Desk

If you experience any technical problems with the eConcordia website, please contact the **eConcordia HelpDesk**:

- **E-mail:** helpdesk@econcordia.com
- **Phone:** (514) 848-8770
- **Toll-free:** (888) 361-4949

The Help Desk is open Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM ET.

The necessary technical requirements to ensure the eConcordia course website works properly can be found here: [Technical Requirements](#). The recommended web browsers are Google Chrome on PC, and Safari and Google Chrome on Mac devices.

WeBWork Technical Help

If you experience any technical problems with WeBWork please contact Concordia's WeBWork TAs:

E-mail: webwork.mathstat@concordia.ca

The recommended web browsers for WeBWork are Google Chrome and Mozilla. Do not use Safari or Internet Explorer.

Note: The WeBWork TAs will not answer questions about the mathematical content of your WeBWork assignments or other assessments. All such questions should be directed to your MATH 201 TA or instructor.

Other Important Information and Useful Links

Topic	Link
Academic Integrity	Academic Integrity
Educational Technology Guidelines	Concordia Educational Technology Guidelines for Faculty and Students (the "Guidelines")

Access Centre for Students with Disabilities	ACSD
Concordia Library Citation & Style Guides	How to cite...
Course Communication Tools	Communication
eConcordia Policies	Policies
Final Exams Information	Final Exams
Helpdesk/Support	FAQ
Multifactor Authentication	MFA for Students
Refunds	Refunds
Technical Requirements	Technical Requirements
Tips for Studying Online	Studying Tips
Tips on how to reach online learning goals (learning modules)	How to Succeed @ eConcordia

Third-Party Software and Websites

Here is an excerpt on Concordia's policy on educational software or services developed and owned by third parties, including those linked to textbooks, in-class surveys, lecture capture, virtual classrooms, course assignments and quizzes can be invaluable tools for the development and teaching of courses.

Third-party software/websites that require personal information (name, email, student number, etc.)

Students are advised that external software and/or websites will be used in the course, and that students may be asked to submit or consent to the submission of personal information (for example, name and email) to register for an online service. Students are responsible for reading and deciding whether or not to agree to any applicable terms of use. Use of this software and service is voluntary. Students who do not consent to the use the software or service should identify themselves to the course instructor as soon as possible, and in all cases before the DNE deadline, to discuss alternate modes of participation.

Third-party software/websites for work submission

Students are advised that external software and/or websites will be used in the course and that students may be asked to submit or consent to the submission of their work to an online service. Students are responsible for reading and deciding whether or not to agree to any applicable terms of use. Use of this software and service is voluntary. Students who do not consent to the use the software or service should identify themselves to the course instructor as soon as possible to discuss alternate modes of participation that do not require them to give copyright or the right to use their work to a third party.

By using the external software or websites, students agree to provide and share their work and certain personal information (where applicable) with the website/software provider. Students are advised that the University cannot guarantee the protection of intellectual property rights or personal information provided to any website or software company. Intellectual property and personal information held in foreign jurisdictions are subject to the laws of such jurisdictions.

Third-party technology to record a course

Note that, as a part of this course, some or all of the lectures and/or other activities in this course may be recorded. Recordings will be focused on the instructor and will normally exclude students. It is possible, however, that your participation may be recorded. If you wish to ensure that your image is not recorded, speak to your instructor as soon as possible.

You are not permitted to share recordings of your classes. The instructor will only share class recordings for the purpose of course delivery and development. Any other sharing may be in violation of the law and applicable University policies, and may be subject to penalties.

Tutorial Companies

Please note that private tutorial companies, some of whom aggressively promote their services on and off campus, are not authorized by Concordia University to distribute flyers on university premises and may not use Concordia University facilities to promote or provide their services.

Concordia University and its academic departments do not have any affiliation with these companies even though names such as JMSB, Concordia, or references to specific departments often appear in a visible way. If you are interested in the University's approved tutoring services, consult the services listed in your course outline or other services listed on the University's website.

ChatGPT and similar generative AI products

Chat GPT is a predictive text-generating artificial intelligence (AI). While it may prove useful in certain circumstances, it is not designed and is not intended to solve mathematical problems. In many cases, when prompted to solve a mathematical problem, Chat GPT will fail to provide a structured and sound mathematical answer.

For this reason, the use in this course of generative artificial intelligence tools or apps (including tools like ChatGPT and other AI writing or coding assistants) for assignments and the midterm test is prohibited.

MATH 201 - Elementary Functions Agenda Fall 2023

Week 1: September 4 - September 10	
September 4	Labour Day, University Closed
September 5	Classes Begin
September 5	Discussion Board opens at 2:00 PM
	Read the Course Outline
	Lesson 0: About This Course – Before You Begin! Algebra Review pdf file (if necessary)
Week 2: September 11 - September 17	
	Lesson 1: Analytic Geometry
Week 3: September 18 - September 24	
September 18	Deadline to add fall-term courses
September 18	Deadline for withdrawal with tuition refund (DNE) from fall-term courses
	Lesson 2: Introduction to Functions
September 24	Assignment #1 due at 11:59 PM

Week 4: September 25 - October 1	
	Lesson 3: Combining Functions
October 1	Assignment #2 due at 11:59 PM
Week 5: October 2 - October 8	
	Lesson 4: Quadratic and Rational Functions
October 8	Assignment #3 due at 11:59 PM
Mid-term break: October 9 - October 15	
October 9	Thanksgiving Day, University Closed
October 10	Mid-term break begins
October 15	Mid-term break ends
Week 6: October 16 - October 22	
	Lesson 5: Exponential Functions and Logarithms I
October 22	Assignment #4 due at 11:59 PM
Week 7: October 23 - October 29	
	Lesson 6: Exponential Functions and Logarithms II
October 29	Assignment #5 due at 11:59 PM

Week 8: October 30 - November 5	
	Lesson 7: Measuring Angles
November 5	Assignment #6 due at 11:59 PM
Week 9: November 6 - November 12	
	Lesson 8: Introduction to Trigonometry
November 8	Midterm Test (Lessons 1 to 6), 9:00 AM to 11:59 PM, on Concordia Moodle
November 10	Deadline to register with the Access Centre for Students with Disabilities and receive exam accommodations for the fall 2023 final examination period
November 12	Assignment #7 due at 11:59 PM
Week 10: November 13 - November 19	
	Lesson 9: Trigonometric Functions
November 19	Assignment #8 due at 11:59 PM
Week 11: November 20 - November 26	
	Lesson 10: Trigonometric Equations
November 26	Assignment #9 due at 11:59 PM
Week 12: November 27 - December 3	

November 27	Last day for instructor-scheduled tests or examinations
	Lesson 11: Oblique Triangles
December 3	Assignment #10 due at 11:59 PM
Week 13: December 4 - December 5	
	Review the course material
December 4	Last day of classes, fall term
December 5	Deadline for academic withdrawal (DISC) from fall-term courses
Examinations Period: December 6 - December 19	
	Final Exam date and time is posted on your Student Hub
December 10	Assignment #11 due at 11:59 PM