1 General Information

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Office Hours: MWF 9–10 AM;
MW 2–4 PM;
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2 Purpose

2.1 This Class

This course is a prerequisite for many other courses in various majors so our aim is to help you become comfortable with some of the basic concepts of calculus: function, derivative, and application.

2.2 In General

As a liberal arts course, this course has another if not more important purpose: to make you better readers and writers. There is no more important skill for college students than learning to learn through reading. This skill is the meta-goal for college and of this course.

You may be used to classes where you were asked to read some text and then come to class prepared to discuss the reading and ask questions. As a liberal arts course, this class follows that model. Consider the text as a mystery novel. As with any mystery novel, it is not always clear what is going on with just one reading. It must be read carefully and reread to catch all the subtleties. In our time together we will work through the points in the plot you find tricky and point out the things that you may have missed. If you haven’t had a math class like this before, this may be a bit daunting. It will at times be tough because it is new. But you’ve shown you can overcome difficulties; you’re in college. All it will take is some hard work, patience, and a sense of humor. If you are apprehensive, it shows you care. Don’t worry you’re not alone. I look forward to the semester ahead with you.

3 Text

Calculus, Single Variable, third edition by Hughes-Hallett, Gleason, McCallum et al.

4 Homework

Homework will be assigned at the beginning of the semester and collected on the date indicated on the assignment sheet. Homework will be collected at the beginning of class and will consist of problems from previous section and from the section to be discussed. If you are ill (or have some other valid reason) and you notify me before class (by telephone, e-mail, leaving a message, sending word with another student, etc.), you will be allowed to submit homework late. If you are not present when homework is collected and you have not given prior notification as above, you will not be allowed to submit late homework.

The homework will be worth 5% of the class grade. Each homework assignment will be worth the same as every other homework assignment. The two lowest homework assignments will be dropped. The rubric for grading each homework problem is as follows:

- a 4 indicates that the problem is correct, well written, clear and concise;
• a 3 indicates the problem is correct but has a small problem that is easily fixed, is well written and clear;
• a 2 indicates the problem is correct but may have more than one mistake or it may be poorly written;
• a 1 indicates that the answer may be correct but the explanation is not acceptable because it is sloppy, poorly written, or unclear;
• a 0 indicates that there is no basis for credit because the explanation is missing or it indicates that the idea(s) relating the question were not understood.

In addition to the graded problems, the assignment as a whole will be considered and graded according to the following rubric:

• a “plus” will be given for an assignment that is well written and missing no more than 20% of the assigned problems;
• a “check” will be given for an assignment that is messy or it is clear that it is scratch work or it is missing more than 20% (but less than 50%) of the assigned problems;
• a “zero” will be given for an assignment that is missing more than 50% of the assigned problems but is handed in;
• a “negative 2” will be given for an assignment that is not handed in.

On each assignment, for each problem graded, I’ll add 6 points for a “plus”, 4 points for a “check”, 0 points for a “zero”, and -2 points for a “negative 2”.

Grading certain problems and the assignment as a whole will then allow me to put a percentage on the assignment.

5 Exams

There will be four exams each worth 16% percent of the total grade. If you miss an exam, you will receive a zero unless I am notified ahead of time. This notification does not entitle you to a make-up exam. If you have a legitimate foreknown reason to take an exam early or late, you must submit a written request to me 24 hours before the scheduled exam. Of course there are extenuating circumstances that do arise and we will deal with those on a case-by-case basis. The Final Exam is scheduled for Wednesday, December 15 from 9:00-12:00AM (for Section 02) and Saturday, December 18 from 9:00-12:00AM (for Section 03). It is worth 25% of the final grade, and is comprehensive. The exam with the highest grade (including the final) will count an additional 4%. The exam with the next highest grade (including the final) will count an additional 2%.

6 Grading

To recap the grading: Homework is worth 5%, each Exam worth 16%, the Final Exam worth 25%, highest exam +4%, and next highest exam +2%. The grading scale is standard: 92% for an A, 90% for an A-, 88% for a B+, 82% for a B, 80% for a B-, 78% for a C+, 72% for a C, 70% for a C-, 68% for a D+, 62% for a D, 60% for a D-, etc.

7 Policies and Procedures

Students will adhere to all Procedures, Policies, and Codes given in the 2004-2005 Student Handbook. This includes but is not limited to policies on Academic Dishonesty.

Disabilities and Medical Conditions: If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please let me know. Please see me or the Coordinator of Disability Services in Humanities 206-D, 867-6071 if you have any questions.