

Math 101: Calculus I
MWF 10:30 - 11:20, XXXX
T XXX - XXX, XXXX

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Office Hours: M 1:30 – 2:20
T 12:00 – 12:50
W 1:30 – 2:20

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Prerequisites The willingness to work hard to understand and implement new concepts. The self-discipline to read the textbook regularly and critically. The self-possession to aggressively ask questions when you don't understand something. The (free!) textbook is Apex Calculus, version 4.0. Find it at:

<https://www.apexcalculus.com/>

Two Principles First, your learning is in your head, not mine: You are responsible for own education. This is a liberating principle. Second, learning is a continuum that starts before class with the required reading, is enhanced by class interactions, and spirals into the future with Homework, Discussions with Friends and Classmates, and Late Night Musings.

Course Objectives Calculus is the doorway to all of higher math and the sciences. The assumption is that you wish to study more science and math, and thus immersion in the subject is called for. By the end of the course, you will understand limits, derivatives, and integrals. We will also hopefully explore basic differential equations with an eye to learning how integration may be used to find solutions of 'nice' examples. Hopefully, also basic approximations.

There will be a total of 11 homework assignments over the course of the semester, and your lowest score will be dropped. You may work together and even hand them in jointly! (Unless I change my mind.) The homework is normally due at 11:59pm, Eastern Time Zone, on days marked on the schedule. (I won't check until the next morning.) **There is no such thing as 'late homework.'** If people straggling in late begins to annoy me, there will be quizzes. Also: no phones. Really.

Exams There will be three exams with an optional final. For each exam, you may bring one 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper with anything written on it—both sides!—if you wish. The final exam will be given on XXXXX, from X-XXXm in XXX; again, it is OPTIONAL, and if you take it, you choose which of the first three exams is the one that gets a 'do-over.' The lowest grade of the two attempts is dropped. **Make-up exams require documentation of extraordinary circumstances.**

Grading Policy The exams will be graded on a scale of 0-100. At the end of the term, your total number of points (out of 400) will be added together to give your final grade.

It's important to note that this does not mean that, for example, 360 points and above guarantees an A: Often I curve the grades either UP or DOWN, but the past does not predict the future. Extra points can be earned in the following fashion: 3 points for catching me in a mathematical or spelling error while I'm at the blackboard, and 5 points for coming to office hours (points given only on first visit). Also, attendance and classroom participation will only raise my opinion of you, which can affect your grade, so ask and answer questions. If you wish to argue about points assigned, you must do it within a week of the return of the work in question. Furthermore, I reserve the right to *lower* your points if I think you are merely haggling.

Honor Code Violations Over the years, I have caught many violations of the Honor Code. The punishment tends to be much worse than the grade received for handing in a bad assignment or test. There has been a surge of cheating incidents in the past few years, and when we uncover them, we respond mercilessly. Your first assignment is reading the Wheaton Honor Code and related materials, then sending me a note acknowledging having read them. Finally, as per student initiative, for all course work, students must write and sign the following: "I have abided by the Wheaton College Honor Code in this work."

Your first homework assignment involves the Honor Code.