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 textbook is the free online Apex Calculus, v.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 integrals, sequences, series, and approximations. We will also explore differential equations with an eye to learning how integration may be used to find solutions of ‘nice’ examples.

Homework, Quizzes, etc. There will be eleven homeworks assigned over the course of the semester, graded on a scale of 0–10, and the lowest score will be dropped. The homework is normally due at the beginning of class on days marked on the schedule—there are a few exceptions near the end of the semester. There is no such thing as ‘late homework.’ If people are coming late to class, short quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. They will be graded on a scale of 0 - 5 and the final point tally will be adjusted appropriately. Also: No phones. Really.

Exams There will be three exams with an optional final (Should you take it, your lowest grade of the four exams will be dropped.) 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 is Monday, December 10th, at 2:00 PM; again, it is OPTIONAL, and you may bring three sheets of notes to it. 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:  I’ve usually curved the grades, but that’s no guarantee for 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.”

As noted above, your first homework assignment involves the Honor Code.