

MATH 153 FALL 2009

Your Prof: James D. Harper, Ph.D.
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Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday	11:00 to Noon
Tuesday, Thursday	1:00 to 1:30
Friday	7:30 to 8:00, 11:00 to Noon
And by appointment	

Text PRECALCULUS, A Problem-Oriented Approach by David Cohen

Equipment A graphing calculator (I will be using a TI-83), a ruler.

Syllabus §1.6, 1.7 and selections from chapters 2 through 5.

Grading System

Quizzes & Worksheets 10%

There will be six take-home quizzes, including the “Review Quiz”.
Since your lowest score will be dropped, there will be *no make-ups!*

Exams 60%

There will be three in-class exams for your pleasure and enjoyment.
Dates will be announced.

Final Exam 30%

The Final is a comprehensive exam and it will be about 60% longer than our in-class exams. You are invited to attend any of the following scheduled final exams.

8:00 class: Friday, March 20	8:00 to 10:00
11:00 class: Thursday, March 19	8:00 to 10:00
1:00 class: Wednesday, March 18	Noon to 2:00

Grading Scale

A: 92% B: 82% C: 72% D: 62%

Note: A minus grade is “-3%” and a plus grade is “+3%”.

E.g., 79% is a B- and 85% is a B+.

School Holidays – No Class

Veteran’s Day	Wednesday, November 11
Thanksgiving Recess	Wednesday – Friday, November 25 - 27

Comments

1. It is the student's responsibility to know the assignments, material covered in class and the dates of all the quizzes and exams.
2. This course is intensive and proceeds quickly through the syllabus: there will be time to go over some, but not all, homework problems during class. Of course, you are invited to discuss any homework problem during my office hours.
3. The best way to study for my exams is to review the quizzes/worksheets, your lecture notes and your homework.
4. Homework will be assigned but not collected. Most of the problems I assign are closely related to my lectures. Therefore, **take good notes!** (Even if you cannot keep up with the lecture, write everything from the board down and then review your notes before you begin your homework.)
5. Study Time Most students who want to do well in this course will need to devote 8 to 10 hours outside of class each week. Among the things you need set aside time for are:
 - Reading and *correcting* your notes.
 - Studying the appropriate pages of the textbook.
 - Working as many homework problems as is feasible
6. You will be allowed to bring a 3" by 5" 'cheat sheet' to the exams. A good cheat sheet will help you organize your study time. Therefore, take your time and put some thought into devising your card. (Yes, front and back.)
7. *INCOMPLETES* An incomplete will not be considered before the end of the eighth week (i.e., November 20) and the student has a passing grade at the time.
8. Please e-mail me or call Student Affairs (x1515), if possible, for extended absences.
9. Speaking of e-mail, it is easier for me to respond to e-mail than to voice-mail. Also, e-mail sent after 2:00pm will probably be read the next day.
10. Computing grades. Your percentage is a *weighted average* of the exams, quizzes and final. In particular, 1 exam point equals 4.16 quiz points. Keep this ratio in mind when you compute your midterm grade.
11. Your math prof has a hearing disorder, to be specific, he has an *Auditory Processing Disorder* (APD). (You can look it up on Wikipedia.) The symptoms and spectrum for APD are quite broad, however, for yours truly, the primary disorders are: (i) I can "hear" better in my right ear than in my left ear, and, (ii) I have difficulty filtering out background noise.

Record Your Progress

Quizzes

R	1	2	3	4	5	Total	10%

EXAMS

I	II	III	Total	60%