

Math 108: Calculus for Decision Making

Dr. Emilie Wiesner

Spring 2008

About the Course

This course will give you an introduction to the fundamental ideas of calculus as well as the ways that calculus can be used to describe and solve real world problems. The course will cover most of chapters 1-7.

In this course, you will work with tables, graphs, formulas, and written descriptions using fundamental calculus concepts. You will learn to give clear explanations of technical ideas and to work in groups on challenging mathematical problems.

Textbook: Applied Calculus (3rd edition), Hughes-Hallett et al.

Meetings: MWF at 12PM (Williams 320) and Tuesday at 9:25AM (Williams 302)

Contact Information

Office: Williams 212D

Phone: 274-1220

Email: ewiesner@ithaca.edu

Office Hours: Monday 3-4PM; Wednesday 1PM-2PM; Friday 9-10AM.

You are also welcome to stop by whenever I am in or set up an appointment to meet with me.

Help Room: The math department also sponsors a drop-in help room. It is located in Williams 304. I am in the help room Tuesday 2-3PM.

Expectations and Assignments

Homework:

- *Daily Homework:* There will be 2-3 daily homework problems assigned after each class, to be completed on WebCT. This homework will help you to make sense of the material from each class and to prepare for the upcoming class.
- *Weekly Homework:* There will be 4-8 weekly homework problems assigned from the textbook, to be turned in once a week. This homework will help you to synthesize the week's material and to practice writing good explanations about calculus.

No late homework will be accepted.

Labs: Most Tuesday class meetings will be lab days. You will work on these labs in small groups in class, and you will turn in your work as a group. For some labs, you will also write up a formal laboratory report with your group.

You must be present and a contributing member of your lab group to receive credit for labs. Late lab reports will be automatically lowered in grade.

Quizzes and Exams: There will be 7 quizzes (2/1, 2/15, 3/21,4/4,4,18,5/2) given in class. *There will be no make-up quizzes.*

There will be two midterm exams (3/5, 4/23). The midterm exams will be given at 7PM, in Williams 320. The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, May 8 at 1:30PM. *Make-up exams will be given only under extraordinary circumstances. If you are unable to attend the one*

of the exams, you should contact me as soon as possible.

Attendance: Participation in class is important, so attendance is required. You are allowed four absences during the semester, *regardless of the reason*. Each additional absence will result in a one point deduction from your final grade. Disruptive behavior during class and excessive tardiness will similarly count against your final grade. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain the information that was presented on the missed day, including any changes in assignments or exams. You can read the official college attendance policy at:

http://www.ithaca.edu/attorney/policies/vol7/Volume_7-70202.htm.

Calculators: You will find a calculator helpful, for in-class work and for homework and tests. I recommend the TI-83 Plus. *You must bring your own calculator to quizzes and exams.*

Academic Honesty

You are expected to conform to the Standards of Academic Conduct printed in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the act of presenting someone else's work as your own. This includes using a classmate's work or something you found on the internet. If you have any questions about using sources, please come talk with me.

I encourage you to discuss homework for this class with other students and with me. However, you should always write up your homework on your own and in your own words.

Statement Regarding Disabilities

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation will be provided to students with documented disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Students must register with the Office of Academic Support Services and provide appropriate documentation to the College before any academic adjustment will be provided.

Grades

Your final score will be broken down as follows:

- 15%: Homework
- 15%: Labs
- 15%: Quizzes
- 35%: Midterms
- 20 %: Final Exam

Your final score will determine your grade for the class as follows:

Grade	Score	Grade	Score
A	94%	C	74%
A-	90%	C-	70%
B+	87%	D+	67%
B	84%	D	64%
B-	80%	D-	60%
C+	77%	F	<60%

This syllabus is a general plan for the course. However, deviations may be necessary and will be announced to the class.

