

MATH 231 - Multivariable Calculus - Section 02 - Fall 2012

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Office Hours: MWF 12:00 - 1:30
MW 2:30 - 4:30
or by appointment

Textbook: *Calculus - Late Transcendentals*, by David Guichard. You will find an electronic copy (pdf) of this textbook on Blackboard. We will be covering (approximately) Chapters 14 - 18 of this book.

Learning Objectives: This course serves as an introduction to the calculus of functions of several variables. Many of the topics covered (limits, differentiation, integration) are built upon (generalizations of) topics covered in Calculus I and II. This should provide us with a certain sense of familiarity that will ease the transition to vectors and functions of more than one variable. The material will be grounded in concrete examples and applications, while providing a view of the theory that makes the subject both beautiful and worthwhile. By the end of the course you should be comfortable in recognizing the sorts of problems for which multivariable calculus is useful in solving and in knowing the methods needed to solve those problems.

Class Expectations: These are simple: you should attend every class, you should be alert and pay attention during class, you should ask questions when you are confused or curious, and you should try your best to answer the questions that are presented to you. Officially speaking, I have no attendance policy. However, it should go without saying that the best chance you have for success in this class is to follow the guidelines I have suggested above. Class is most enjoyable, and most productive, when all of you are in class and we are all participating in the learning process.

Homework: You will be assigned homework problems approximately once a week. These will be collected and graded, though some assignments may only be partially graded. All of the assigned homework problems are essential for mastering the material we shall discuss this semester. Homework should be submitted by 4:30 pm on the designated day. Late homework will be accepted at my discretion. Your homework should be presented neatly and coherently, and should NOT resemble the work of a first grader.

Note: The solutions (final answers to be more precise) to most of the homework problems can be found in the back of the textbook. When it comes to grading these problems, the process by which you obtain the answers is at least as important as the final answers themselves.

Collaboration: You may work with your classmates on the homework. In fact, I encourage you to do so. Discussing these problems/ideas with others will be an excellent way to understand them better. However, it is neither permitted nor beneficial to simply copy someone else's work.

Help Outside of Class: I am here to help you in any way that I can. Interaction with students outside of class is an essential, and enjoyable, part of my job. Please, please take advantage of the office hours I have provided, or set up appointments with me. If my door is open, feel free to drop in.

Exams: There will be four in-class exams given throughout the semester. They are tentatively scheduled on **September 28th, October 19th, November 16th, and December 7th**. The final exam is scheduled for Thursday, **December 20**. More details about the exams will be provided before they are given.

Missing an Exam: I recognize that it may be necessary for you to miss an exam (due to illness, sporting events, etc). If that is the case, I will be happy to work with you to find a time for you to make up the exam. I simply ask that you please notify me as soon as possible ahead of time. Keep in mind that I do not consider things such as leaving early for break, sleeping through an alarm, or having another exam scheduled on the same day to be legitimate reasons for missing an exam.

Honor Code: Students are expected to write and sign the Honor Pledge on all academic exercises. The pledge reads: "I have adhered to the Honor code in this assignment."

Students With Disabilities: The college will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students should notify the Office of Disability Services and come see me as soon as possible to discuss any disability related needs.

Technology: There are many programs that can be quite useful when dealing with calculus. Some of the assignments you will be given may involve working with Mathematica. More details will be provided when and if it becomes relevant. When working on your homework, feel free to use calculators/Mathematica to assist you. Keep in mind, however, that you will need to provide the details of the work on all assignments to get full credit.

Grading: Your final grade for the semester will be determined as follows:

Homework	15 %
Highest Exam	25 %
Second Highest	20 %
Third Highest	15 %
Lowest Exam	10 %
Final Exam	15 %