

MA121 Elements of Calculus

Spring 2009

North Carolina State University
Department of Mathematics

MW 7 : 30 pm - 8 : 45 pm
Harrelson Hall (HA) 107

Instructor: Robert L. Watson

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Instructor's Website: <http://www4.ncsu.edu/~rlwatso3>

Instructor's Course Website: http://www4.ncsu.edu/~rlwatso3/09sp_ma121.html

Textbook: Bittinger, M.L., *Calculus and Its Applications* (9th Ed.)

Course Description: For students who require only a single semester of calculus. Emphasis on concepts and applications of calculus, along with basic skills. Algebra review, functions, graphs, limits, derivatives, integrals, logarithmic and exponential functions, functions of several variables, applications in management, applications in biological and social sciences.

Course Prerequisites: MA 107 or 111 or placement via Level Two Achievement Test.

Calculators: A calculator is recommended, but not required. The use of most types of calculators will be allowed on exams. However, calculators which have graphing or programming capabilities, or which are capable of differentiation or integration (such as TI-83, TI-89) will *not* be allowed on exams.

Blue Books: Each student must submit 6 "Blue Books" for use on the exams. The blue books should be completely blank. Do not put your name or any identifying marks on them. These should be turned in to the instructor before the first exam. Failure to submit all six blue books will result in a deduction of one letter grade (10 points) from each exam (including the final). Upon turning in the blue books, all deducted points will be re-awarded.

Grading: The grade will consist of four mid-term exams (15% each), one final exam (25%), and homework/quizzes (15%). The final average will be translated into a letter grade in the following manner at the worst:

A+	98 – 100	A	92 – 97	A-	90 – 91
B+	88 – 89	B	82 – 87	B-	80 – 81
C+	78 – 79	C	72 – 77	C-	70 – 71
D+	68 – 69	D	62 – 67	D-	60 – 61
	–	F	0 – 59		–

Hence, if your final average is 89, you will be guaranteed at least a "B+".

Attendance: Attendance will be taken before each class and factored into your grade. Good attendance will result in a bonus of at least 8% to the final exam score. There is no official penalty for poor attendance. By the start of the third class a seating chart will be established and posted outside the

room. It is your responsibility to find your seat. Attendance is taken according to the chart. If you are not in your seat at the time attendance is taken, you will be marked absent. Leaving early will also count as an absence. A record consisting of at most three classes is considered “good” and is the requirement for the bonus. Additional bonuses may be given at the discretion of the instructor.

Homework and Quizzes: WebAssign will be utilized for most graded homework. It is your responsibility to establish your WebAssign access and keep up with the due dates. There are no extensions for WebAssign homework. Occasional quizzes (announced, unannounced, or take-home variety) will be factored into the average of WebAssign scores to make up the homework/quizzes grade. Additional problems will be assigned after each class and posted to the course website. These problems are not handed in nor graded, but will cover some topics WebAssign questions do not.

Mid-Term Exams: Exams are similar in nature to WebAssign homework, suggested problems, examples from class, and quizzes. Practice exams are provided through WebAssign, but should not be considered the entirety of the respective exams.

There are four mid-term exams.

To reward students who carefully review returned exams and correct their mistakes, the final exam can be used to replace the lowest exam grade. This will effectively weight the final exam as 40%, and remove the lowest exam grade. If the final exam is the lowest grade, it will still count 25%. The final exam grade cannot replace the homework grade.

Test make-up policy is in accordance with University policy. This can be found at:
http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/pols_regs/REG205.00.4.php.

All anticipated absences must be excused in advance of the exam date, including university duties or trips (with appropriate certification by faculty/staff), required court attendances (certified by Clerk of Court), or religious observances (certified by Department of Parent and Family Services - 919 – 515 – 2441). Emergency absences must be reported within one week of returning to class and must be appropriately documented (illness by attending physician, or family emergencies by Parent and Family Services).

Students who miss an exam and have a university approved excuse must request a makeup exam and submit all appropriate documentation.

For oversleeping, car trouble, or non-university approved excuses, make-up exams may ONLY be given on the day of the test!

If you feel an error was made in the grading of your exam, present and explain the error, in writing, on the outside of the exam. You must re-submit the exam to the instructor within three days.

Final Exam: The final exam will be held on Wednesday, 29 April from 6 pm to 9 pm in our usual location.

Academic Integrity: University regulations on academic integrity must be adhered to (i.e. no cheating, plagiarizing). Talking during tests is not permitted. Disrupting an exam will merit a score of 0. If a student is cheating, the matter will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515 – 7633. For more information on NC State’s policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.1) Students must have appropriate documentation from Disability Services (<http://www.ncsu.edu/dss/>) and meet with me to discuss accommodations prior to a test or quiz date.

Expectations: Each student is expected to be attentive in lectures and is encouraged to participate by asking and answering questions. Please leave newspapers, walkmans, laptop computers, and other homework outside of class or in your bookbag. Turn off all cell phones and beepers during class! You should have your book, a calculator, paper, and pen/pencil to each class.

Because learning mathematics involves a series of prerequisites, it is crucial that you catch up whenever you feel you are behind. Communication with your instructor is essential to success. I am here to help you learn mathematics, so please make use of my office hours, TAs and tutors and the various other resources the department offers. The Multi-Media Center (HA 244) has video taped lectures for MA121, along with limited tutoring and computer assisted tutorials. Feel free to email or contact me if you have concerns later in the semester.

Tentative Lecture Schedule: Follows is the *tentative* lecture schedule. Revisions will be made as necessary.

Chapter	Weeks
1	1 – 2
2	2 – 6
3	6 – 8
4	8 – 10
5	10 – 12
6	11 – 15
7	15