Dear MA 242.601 Distance Education Students,

Welcome to Calculus III, spring 2015. Please read all points listed below so that you will be prepared for the course. All information about the course is contained on the web pages for the class at the URL:

http://www.math.ncsu.edu/~lkn --> MA242.601 Distance Education Section

You should look at ALL the web pages so that you will be aware of what is available to you.

1. Do not hesitate to write to me by email to ask questions about the class. email is the main form of communication for the class.

2. You must be prepared to spend approximately 2 hours per day, 4 days a week, on this course. This amount of time is consistent with the time you would spend taking a regular 242 section on campus. On the web page for the class you will find a day-by-day schedule for the class based on 4 lectures per week. A link is provided for the web page for the videos from which you should fashion a schedule.

I encourage you to set a schedule and stick to your schedule for viewing the videos and practicing working homework problems.

I would like to point out that in the past some students have actually tried to view 15 hours of lectures the day before a test. Students taking this approach invariably FAIL the course.

3. The lectures for the class are all in streaming video format. However, you may pause, rewind and/or fast forward the videos.

4. Grading for the course:

   **OPTION #1** Includes Maple assignments (see point #6 below)

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   **OPTION #2** NO Maple assignments (see point #6 below)

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In addition:

In computing your course grade I will replace the lowest of your four inclass tests with your final exam grade, provided the final exam grade is higher than the lowest of your four inclass tests grades.
5. We are using the 4th edition of Stewart’s calculus textbook. **WebAssign is a required component of the course.** There are WebAssign homework problems for most sections of the book. I also provide a list of “suggested problems” from each section the textbook that we cover. There is no graded written homework (only Maple and WebAssign homework) to turn in. However the best way to prepare for tests is to work the suggested homework problems that I list on the webpage for the class for each section of the textbook as well as working the WebAssign problems. The problems on the tests are just like the suggested homework problems and the example problems that I work during lectures.

6. This semester I am offering **TWO MAPLE OPTIONS.** You can choose to do the Maple assignments and it will count 9% of your grade. Or you can choose to NOT do the Maple assignments, and your final exam will count an extra 9% compared to someone who is doing the Maple assignments. (See point #4 above). It is YOUR CHOICE, but you must NOTIFY ME the first week of classes which option you choose.

For those or you who choose to do the Maple work you will required to do the 8 Maple assignments during the semester. The web page for the Maple work is at the URL

   www.math.ncsu.edu/calculus

The ”start and due” dates for all Maple assignments are listed on that web page under the ”Maple Homework START and DUE Dates” link. If you have no experience in using Maple then you need to IMMEDIATELY (or sooner!!) study the ”Introductory Materials” on the Calculus with Maple Homepage at the URL

   http://www.math.ncsu.edu/calculus --- > students --- > Introductory materials

You should then spend some time viewing the QuickTime videos in the MA 141 Maple Basics Lessons. If you follow these instructions you will get up to speed quickly.

7. **Information about testing:** There will be 4 regular tests during the semester, plus a comprehensive final exam. Test dates are listed on the week-by-week schedule mentioned above. You can take these tests in one of two locations:

   (a) Testing with DELTA Testing services at one of two locations at NCSU:
      i. On the NCSU main campus at the DELTA Testing Services offices in Cox Hall.
      ii. At the DELTA Testing Services offices on the Centennial Campus in Venture II, Suite 500.
   
   (b) At a secure location (University, community college, US Embassy, etc) using a remote proctor if you live more than 50 miles from NCSU. **If this is your choice then you MUST have your proctor approved by DELTA Testing Services.**

You MUST see the link at the URL


and follow the instructions on that page. This is one of the most important things you must do at the start of the semester.

Best regards,

Dr. Larry K. Norris