

Course Specifics for Math 255A

Math 255A, Calculus I

Section 01, MWF 10:00-10:50, LO1125

Section 03, MWF 12:00-12:50, SH264

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Office Hours & Extra Help: *MWF 11:00-11:50AM or by appointment (email). Open door policy, you may stop by anytime.* You are encouraged to make use of the tutoring and computer resources available on campus (SI Tutoring, BH 417, Computer Labs in JR 254 and SH 272) and to form informal study groups outside of class for further support.

Text: *Calculus for the Life Sciences*, by Greenwell, Ritchey, and Lial, 2003, Addison Wesley. We will cover chapters 1-7 at the rate of approximately one section per class meeting. (See Tentative Timetable for more information.)

Attendance and Class Participation are required for Success.

Grade policy : Homework assignments, 10%
Tests 1, 2 and 3, 55%
Final Exam (comprehensive), 35%

Percentage scores are generally translated into letter grades using the following scale: (plus/minus will be used) 90-100% A; 80-89% B; 70-79% C; 60-69% D; 0-59% F. This grading scheme may be modified, at professor's discretion, but any such change may only result in increasing the individual grades.

Make-ups: There will be no make-up tests/quizzes, unless in some rare cases, in my judgment the circumstances were beyond your control, based on the concrete evidences you have provided.

Assignments: Problems for practice will be given for each section of the textbook. These problems will be collected in class on an approximately weekly basis (the dates will be announced in advance). A small number of problems chosen randomly from each assignment will be graded. It is therefore important that you attempt to solve all problems. All answers to problems should be justified; no credit will be given for correct answers without solutions. No late homework will be accepted.

Key to Success: There are lots of similarities between *winning* a tennis game and *passing* a mathematics course. *Both* require concentration and lots of practice. Read the appropriate sections after each class carefully and then do all the homework assignments before next class. This is an important step to successfully learn the materials. The

general rule of success requires that you spend 3 hours studying for each one hour you spend in class. Team-up with a classmate for study outside of class time. Actively participate in class by asking questions when you need more explanation, provide answers to questions asked during class. You are encouraged to form informal study group outside of class for further support. For each test, review homework, class notes, complete each chapter review and test. Get a good night's sleep (8 hours continuously) the night before each test. Always remain calm, and keep a positive mental attitude toward the course.

Good Luck and have a fruitful semester.

References: You can use any calculus text book written for Life Sciences majors available at the library to get more practice on problem solving. For example you may use any of the following as a reference.

- 1) *Calculus for Biology and Medicine* by Claudia Neuhauser, Prentice-Hall 2000.
- 2) *Mathematics for the Biological Sciences* by Jogdisha Arya/Robin Lardner, Prentice-Hall 1979.

Calculator: A scientific calculator is recommended for the assignments and tests, but it is not required. No graphing or cell phone type calculator is allowed during the tests or quizzes. No calculator sharing is allowed during the tests. Calculator instruction books/manuals may not be used during the tests.

Tests: All tests and final exam are closed books/notes.

Cell phones: Cell phones/pagers must be *off* or on *silent* during every class period and during tests/exams.