Course: Calculus I (Math 125)
Instructor: Brian Ryals (ryals@usc.edu)
Office: KAP 444C
Office Hours: Monday 10:30-11:30, Wednesday 10:30-11:30, 2:00-3:00 (tentative)

Course Description: Limits; continuity, derivatives and applications; antiderivatives; the fundamental theorem of calculus; exponential and logarithmic functions.

Prerequisite: Math 108


Course goals: To learn the material of math 125; to learn that Math is more than just plugging numbers into formulas; to meet new people and have fun while learning.

Grade Distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (September 30th)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (November 4th)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeworks and Computer Assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam (December 9th)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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Fall 2015 Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>August 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>September 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to drop (Without grade of W)</td>
<td>October 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day to drop (grade of W)</td>
<td>November 13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>November 25-28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classes End</td>
<td>December 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Days</td>
<td>December 5-8</td>
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Final Exam

The final exam for Math 125 is an “exception” on the final exam schedule and is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9th from 2-4 PM. Per university policy, students may not take the exam early, so make winter travel plans accordingly. This is a common final written by the department. In the event that a student is scheduled for two final examinations at the same time or is scheduled for more than two final examinations on one day, an attempt will be made to make alternative arrangements.

For more information, see http://classes.usc.edu/term-20153 finals/

Academic Honesty Policy

The instructor strongly adheres to the University policies regarding academic integrity violations, and will strictly enforce these rules. Violation of these policies is a very serious offense and typically results with an F in the course.
Homeworks

Homeworks will be assigned under the “assignments” tab on blackboard. Knowing how to do all the homework problems is critical to successful completion of the course. Homeworks will be collected almost every week on Thursday, exceptions being the first week of class and exam weeks.

Homeworks will consist of three parts.

The first part is an assigned reading; there is nothing to hand in for this part. On your weekly quizzes, you will always see at least one problem based on an example in the reading.

The second part consists of ‘practice problems’ to ensure that you understand the reading. These problems are also not to be turned in. Some of these problems will be discussed and worked out during the discussion sections. These questions will be the basis for the weekly quizzes. As only odd numbers will be assigned from the practice problems, answers to all questions may be found in the back of the text. Solutions to all assigned problems may be found in the Students’ Solution manual.

The third part will consist of five graded homework problems. These problems should be written up with justification and explanations of your steps. See the example problems in the textbook for examples of how to write up solutions to a problem well. Homeworks will be graded for their correctness and justifications, not just completion, according to the following scale:

3 points: Work is completely accurate and essentially perfect. Work is thoroughly developed and easy to read.
2 points: Work is good, but incompletely developed, unexplained, or jumbled. Work contains “right idea” but is flawed.
1 point: Work is sketchy. There is some correct work, but most of work is incorrect.
0 points: Work minimal or non-existent. Solution is completely incorrect.

Homeworks may be worked on in groups (in fact, it’s highly encouraged) but you are responsible for turning in your own writeup. You may not just copy someone else’s solution, even if you worked on it together. You cannot submit a solution that you cannot explain to someone else!

Discussion

Discussion sections meet (with a graduate assistant) on Tuesday and Thursday. These meetings will be used predominantly to discuss the homework problems; they will not cover new material. Most of the Thursday sections will be devoted to taking quizzes that are similar in spirit to the homework questions. There will be no quiz the first week or during midterm weeks, but the discussion sections will still meet on those days.
Quizzes

Quizzes will be given during discussion sections on any Thursday that a Homework is due. Quiz problems will be similar to those found in the reading and practice problems from the homework assignments, sometimes just with different numbers (and often identical). A student who has mastered the homework problems should have little difficulty with the quizzes. No calculators or notes are allowed during the quizzes.

The goal of the quizzes is that students will be able to view their quiz grades as an assessment of how well they understand the material found in the corresponding homework assignments.

Exams

There will be two exams during the semester (not cumulative) and a final exam (cumulative). The goal of the exams is to assess whether students know, use, and can synthesize what they have been taught throughout the course. Consequently, the problems on the exams will not just be the same as those found on the homeworks, but a student who understands all the techniques and when to use them will be able to tackle every problem on the exams.

If you must miss an exam because of a prior obligation, you must speak to me about it IN ADVANCE of the exam. If you miss an exam for an unforeseen but valid reason (e.g., illness) you must contact me (by e-mail) as soon as possible and obtain a WRITTEN EXCUSE (e.g. from a medical professional). If you miss an exam WITHOUT a written excuse (e.g., your alarm didn’t go off) you MUST contact me within 24 hours of the exam time. If you do so, you will be given a different exam as a make-up, but will automatically lose 20 points (so the highest possible grade will be 80%).

Attendance Policy

There is no attendance policy for either lectures or discussion sections, but it has been my experience that students who consistently come to class do better than those who do not. A student who misses either lecture or discussion is responsible for all missed material.

Extra Help

There are many resources for extra help in math 125. Here are a few:

Instructor’s Office Hours: Office hours are located in KAP 444C on Monday from 10:30-11:30 and on Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 and 2-3. Students may also request an appointment with at least 24 hours notice by e-mail at other times on Monday/Wednesday/Friday. I am also sometimes available on Tuesday/Thursday but not every week.

Math Center: The Math Center is located in KAP 263 and is open Monday-Friday beginning at 8 AM and ending at 7 PM on most days. It is primarily run by math graduate students here at USC. The office hours of your TA will also be held in the Math Center, although you can go to the Math Center at any time it is open to ask for help.

Classmates: You can sometimes learn a lot just by talking to each other!
Grades

In addition to a raw numerical score, a letter grade will be assigned to every exam. A letter grade will also be assigned for the homework and quiz average at the end of the semester. The letter grade is a better indication of your performance than the actual number.

Grades in the A, A- range represent work that is excellent.
Grades in the B+, B, B- range represent performance that is substantially better than the expectations.
Grades in the C+, C, C- range represent performance that meets expectations.
Grades in the D+, D, D- range represent performance that is substantially worse than the expectations.
Grades in the F range represent performance that is not acceptable for credit.

The instructor is anticipating roughly 20 – 25% of the grades will be in the A, A− range and 25 – 30% of the grades will be in the B+, B, B− range.

Computer Assignments
Two or three computer assignments will be given during the semester using mathematical software packages. The software will be accessible in the computer lab in KAP 262. It is not expected that students will know how to use this software in advance; the assignments will serve as a tutorial to teach the basics.

Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs each semester. They will give a certified letter; please bring it to me as soon as possible.

The calculator question

A calculator is not needed in this course and is not allowed on quizzes or exams.

Disclaimer

The instructor reserves the right to make necessary changes to the syllabus during the semester.