

Math 131 – Calculus Ia (Fall 2006)

As indicated in email/class, I will drop your lowest individual homework grade and your lowest team homework grade.

Instructor: Kevin Woods, King 220B, Kevin.Woods@oberlin.edu

Lectures: MWF 1:30-2:20pm, King 237.

Office Hours:

Monday 2:30-3:20pm, Wednesday 9-9:50am, Friday 11-11:50am, and by appointment. Also, feel free to stop by any time my door is open (but be understanding if I say I am too busy).

Blackboard:

<http://bb.oberlin.edu>. I will post homework, reading, and other announcements on Blackboard. You will also do your Reading Homework assignments on Blackboard. There is also a discussion board that I encourage you to use to ask questions, make comments, etc. I will read it and post comments, but I also want you to try to answer each other's questions. If this course doesn't appear when you log on to Blackboard, let me know so I can enroll you.

Required Textbook:

James Stewart, *Calculus*, 5th Edition. We will cover Chapters 1-3, plus a few more topics.

Grading:

Reading Homework (5%).

Individual Homework (15%).

Team Homework (15%).

3 Hour-long Exams (15% each),

Final Exam (20%).

Reading homework assignments (5%).

It is important to read about the subject matter before coming to class. To encourage this, you will complete a reading assignment on Blackboard, before each class. You will read the material for the next class and answer a few questions about it. The questions will only be graded on whether you reasonably attempted them, not your correctness. They must be completed by 8am on the day of class.

Individual Homework (15%).

These will be assigned each day. Each Monday at the beginning of class (no late homework accepted!), you will turn in all of the problems that have accumulated since the last time I collected. Part of your grade for this portion will be that you have reasonably attempted each problem. In addition, a few randomly selected problems will be checked for correctness. You may (should!) work together on these problems, but your written solutions must be your own. Use full sentences to explain what you are doing. Note most of the odd problems have answers in the back of the book, but not complete solutions.

Team homework assignments (15%).

You will be divided into groups of 3 or 4 to work together. Problems will be collected each Monday at the beginning of class (no late homework accepted!). Ideally you will meet twice a week (once to talk about the problems and divvy up the write-ups and once to read through what has been written; maybe you can even talk about the individual homework!). You may organize who writes up what among your team, but you **MUST** make sure that, in the long run, everyone does an (approximately) equal amount of work. These problems will be graded very strictly for how coherently written they are. Explain things carefully and in complete sentences. Imagine that another student in the class who hasn't done this problem yet will read your solution: they should be able to understand it without having to ask you questions.

3 Hour-long Exams (15% each).

Friday, September 29, Friday, November 3, and Friday December 1, in class. These will concentrate on topics covered in that segment of the course, but the course material is very cumulative, so you will have to know everything from the course so far. You may bring and use notes on one side of one 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper (with reasonably sized handwriting). You may use a scientific calculator for addition, exponentiation, etc., but you may not use graphing/differentiating functions.

Final Exam (20%).

Wednesday, December 20, 7-9pm. The final exam will cover the entire course. You may bring and use notes on one side of one 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper (with reasonably sized handwriting). You may use a scientific calculator for addition, exponentiation, etc., but you may not use graphing/differentiating functions.

Honor Code:

Reading and individual homework may be discussed in groups, but your answers must be your own (in particular, you may not look at someone else's written solutions). For team homework, you must make sure that, in the long run, everyone contributes equally. You may use graphing/differentiating calculators on homework, but only to check your work. You may use other Calculus texts in addition to ours. On the exams, you may use only a scientific calculator (you may not use graphing/differentiating functions), notes on one side of one 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper (with reasonably sized handwriting), and your own wits.