

MATH 165 CALCULUS I

Nicholls State University, Fall 2007

Instructor: Dr. Brian Heck
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My office hours are 9:00 am-12:00 pm M, W, F and 9:00 am-10:30 am T, TH. Please contact me (by phone, by email, or in person) during these times if you have any questions. If you need assistance at a different time, contact me and we'll work something out.

Prerequisite: Math 102 or 108 (with a C or better) or advanced placement.

Course Materials: Our required text is *Calculus* (9th ed.) by Varberg, Purcell, and Rigdon (Prentice Hall). You will also need to have (at least) a scientific calculator.

Course Description: (Catalog) Limits, derivatives and integrals of algebraic functions, applications of derivatives and integrals.

Course Objectives: Several years ago, a group of the brightest minds of our time got together to discuss the greatest achievements of mankind. Their choice for the number one achievement was not the wheel, relativity, or computers. It was the calculus. My goals this semester are to teach you enough calculus to prepare you for Calculus II (or whatever course you will take next) and also to help you understand why this subject is so great. At the conclusion of the semester, a student should understand limits, continuity, transcendental functions, derivatives, antiderivatives and definite integrals. For even more specificity, a student should be able to:

- evaluate limits including limits at infinity
- find the slope of the tangent line to a function
- find the derivative and antiderivative of a given function
- interpret the meaning of a derivative
- graph a function using derivatives
- find the maximum and/or minimum value of a function
- solve application problems using derivatives and antiderivatives
- find the area under a curve of a given function

Grading Structure: We will have five exams and a comprehensive final. The five exams will be worth 100 points each and the final will be worth 200 points. If your average on the five exams is 80% or better you will be exempt from the final. At the conclusion of the semester, you will be assigned a letter grade based on the usual 10% scale (A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, etc). The schedule for our exams is as follows:

Chapter 1: Sections 1-6
Chapter 2: Sections 1-2
Exam #1...Friday, September 7

Chapter 2: Sections 3-8
Exam #2...Wednesday, September 26

Chapter 3: Sections 1-6
Exam #3...Wednesday, October 6

Chapter 3: Section 8
Chapter 4: Sections 1-5
Exam #4...Tuesday, October 30

Chapter 5: Sections 1-4
Chapter 6: Sections 1-5
Exam #5...Wednesday, November 28

*****Final Exam...Wednesday, December 5...1:00-3:00*****

Attendance: I will not include attendance as part of your course grade. I am not your mother or your parole officer, and this is not high school. I do, however, expect you to attend class everyday. You are responsible for all material covered in class.

Instructor Expectations: Come to class prepared to learn. In order to understand what we are doing in class, it will be necessary for you to do problems outside of class, and it would be beneficial to you to read the text prior to our covering the material in class. I also expect you to take responsibility for your achievement (or lack thereof) in this class. I am more than happy to help you succeed, but it will take effort on your part as well. I firmly believe that if you (1) come to class and pay attention, (2) do your homework, and (3) ask questions when you get confused, you will do very well in this course. It is assumed that you are attending this university because you have a desire for higher learning. It is therefore expected that you will pay attention, be respectful of your instructor and fellow students, and follow the Code of Student Conduct. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. If you are caught cheating, you will fail this course. Similarly, if you are a disruptive presence in the classroom, you will be dropped from the class.

Important Dates

‘W’ Day – Friday, October 26, 2007

Disability: If you have a documented disability that requires assistance, you will need to register with the Office of Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Office of Disability Services is located in Peltier Hall, Room 100-A. The phone number is (985) 448-4430 (TDD 449-7002).