Course Syllabus MA 131M

Calculus I

Instructor: Dr. Vince Matsko

Office Hours: | MW 1:00–2:00, second floor of MPC

Class Times: | MWF 11:50–12:50, Seibert 203

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Text: Making Calculus Accesible, by Vincent J. Matsko

Course Description: We will investigate the concepts of differentiation and integration, and their close relationship to each other.

Some of you have taken Calculus before, and of those, many have taken AP Calculus. The purpose and structure of AP Calculus is for you to pass a particular exam.

Here, the purpose is to teach you the fundamental concepts of Calculus, and prepare you for Calculus II (if you need to take it). So the order of topics in the text will likely not correspond to the order of topics you may have been used to. We will cover all necessary topics, but in a different order.

Course components:

• Homework: Problems will be assigned on a daily basis. Every few weeks, a homework quiz will be given. For a homework quiz, you may bring your notebook, except for the first quiz. All entries in your notebook must be handwritten – you cannot staple additional papers in your notebook – but you may write as much as you like in your notebook. There will be a few problems which are identical in form to problems from your homework, but with some slight variation (perhaps just the numbers or functions changed). These quizzes are given at the beginning of class, and arriving late will simply mean you have less time to complete the quiz. No extra time will be given if you are late.

Dates for homework quizzes are: Friday, September 8; Monday, September 18; Friday, October 6; Friday, October 13; Wednesday, November 1; and Wednesday, November 8.

There are 6 homework quizzes. Missed quizzes can ONLY be made up during Office Hours. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

• In-class assessments: There will be three in-class exams and a Final Exam. The Final Exam will not be entirely cumulative; it will cover all material since the third exam and some additional topics from earlier in the semester. These topics will be given to you before the Final Exam.

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Exam dates are Wednesday, September 27; Monday, October 23; and Wednesday, November 15. For each exam, the preceding class period will be used as an in-class review. The Final Exam will be on Tuesday, December 12, from 11:30–2:30 in our classroom. You must arrange your end-of-semester travel so that you are present for the Final Exam.

If you already know you cannot make one of the exams, you must send me an email by Friday, September 15, explaining the situation so we can make alternative arrangements. Otherwise, there are no make-up exams. If you miss an exam for any reason, your Final Exam will count for the relevant percentage of your course grade.

For each quiz and exam (including the Final Exam), you may bring a scientific calculator. Any TI-8x is fine. For each exam, you may bring a note card (which will be provided). NO additional calculators will be provided, and you may NOT borrow a calculator from another student during an exam.

• Course materials: All homework assignments, quizzes, exams, and solutions, etc., will be posted on the instructor's website. Moodle will be used for posting grades. Please use my Eckerd email address to get in touch with me, as I do NOT monitor my messages in Moodle.

Attendance: You are expected to be in class every day. Simply put, you'll get out of your college experience what you put into it. While in class, you should be paying attention – not texting or sleeping. Cell phones should NEVER be visible. When quizzes or exams are given, no extra time will be given to a student who arrives late. Just maintain a comfortable classroom environment where everyone can learn as much as they can. Essentially, it's not a good idea to skip calculus class.

Grading policy:

The course components are weighted as follows:

| Course component | Percentage |
|------------------|------------|
| Homework quizzes | 25% |
| First Exam | 15% |
| Second Exam | 15% |
| Third Exam | 15% |
| Final Exam | 20% |
| Free points | 10% |

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Grading scale (scores are rounded to an integer):

| 94 - 100 | A |
|----------|----|
| 90 – 93 | A- |
| 87-89 | В+ |
| 83-86 | В |
| 80-82 | В- |
| 77 - 79 | C+ |
| 73 - 76 | С |
| 70 - 72 | С |
| 67 - 69 | D+ |
| 63-66 | D |
| 60 – 62 | D- |
| 0-59 | F |

Withdrawals and Incompletes: The last day to withdraw from the course is Friday, November 10. If you plan to withdraw from the course, it is your responsibility to complete the necessary paperwork by this date. You will not be allowed to withdraw after this date.

Academic Honesty: As a member of a community of scholars, each student is expected to abide by this statement: "On my honor, as an Eckerd College student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to tolerate those behaviors in others."

Contingency Policy Statement: If for any reason, class delivery is interrupted, students should continue their studies. And if Eckerd College is evacuated, students who leave campus for stays of overnight or longer should bring their texts, notes, and syllabus so that they are ready to continue their course work. In the event of any interruption to classes, check your Eckerd email from your on- or off-campus location and continue with the course work according to the syllabus.

Dates for assessments may be altered due to weather conditions. Last fall, Eckerd evacuated for hurricane Ian. In the event we need to evacuate this semester, simply download the text to your laptop while you still have internet. As I teach almost directly from the text, you can keep up by following the text as best you can on your own.

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