

Calculus with Analytic Geometry I

Class #: xxxxx

XXX xx:xx-xx:xx

Room: XXXXXXXX

Note: The syllabus is tentative and should not be considered definitive. The instructor reserves the right to modify it (including the dates of the tests) to meet the needs of the class. It is the student's responsibility to attend class regularly and to make note of any change. The Instructor also reserves the right to change class policies.

August 13, 2023.

Instructor: [name here](#)

Office:: [office](#)

email: email@asu.edu

Phone: 480-965-xxxx

instructor url:

Office Hours: [to be announced soon and by appointment](#)

Course Materials: You *must* have a textbook in some form.

- Calculus: Early Transcendentals, Ninth Edition, by James Stewart, Cengage (Note, there are several buying options; please speak with me before buying.)
- Access to the web. All course information, course materials, supplemental materials, and a large amount of homework is online.
- A graphing calculator is recommended for in-class work and homework. See Technology section below for recommendations.

Prerequisites: *MAT 171 (or MAT 170): Pre-Calculus with grade C or better or equivalent.

Do not expect prerequisite materials to be covered in the class. If you are having a problem with the prerequisites, you may either see me in my office during my office hours, or go to a tutor center on campus for help. **You are particularly expected to be fluent with intermediate algebra, trigonometry, basic geometry, and basic analytic geometry.**

Audit: If you have opted to audit the course, you *must* meet with me to get permission and to find out my requirements for audit credit.

Class Expectations

- Read the course objectives and recitation FAQs.
- Come to class on time daily with notes, paper, writing implement, and a calculator.
- Ask questions or come to office hours if you'd like further explanation or examples.
- Review your notes daily to prepare for quizzes and upcoming tests.
- Read the text in advance to prepare for the next day's new material.
- Leave cell phones or other electronics off and put away while in the classroom.

Tentative Syllabus:

Week of	Sections Covered	Holidays/Exams
8/17-8/18	Orientation, 2.1	
8/21-8/25	2.2–2.4	
8/28-9/1	2.5–2.6	
9/4-9/8	2.7–2.8	Labor Day Holiday Mon. 9/4
9/11-9/15	3.1–3.4	Test 1 – 9/12
9/18-9/22	3.4–3.6	3.1–3.6 is mastery exam material
9/25-9/29	3.9–3.10	
10/2-10/6	4.1–4.2	Mastery Test – 10/5
10/9-10/13	4.3 –4.4	Fall Break 10/9–10/10
10/16-10/20	4.5, 4.7	Mastery Test Retake – 10/20
10/23-10/27	4.9	Test 2 – 10/24
10/30-11/3	5.1–5.2	
11/6-11/10	5.3-5.4	Veteran's Day Observed Fri. 11/10
11/13-11/17	5.4–5.5	Test 3 – 11/14
11/20-11/24	5.5	Thanksgiving Break 11/23–11/24
11/27-12/1	Review	
12/5	Final Exam	Final Exam: Tues. 12/5, 7:10 to 9 PM

Topics covered:

Chapters 2–5 (but skip some sections)

- Chapter 2:
 - 2.1 The Tangent and Velocity Problems
 - 2.2 The Limit of a Function
 - 2.3 Calculating Limits Using the Limit Laws
 - 2.4 The Precise Definition of a Limit
 - 2.5 Continuity
 - 2.6 Limits at Infinity; Horizontal Asymptotes
 - 2.7 Derivatives and Rates of Change
 - 2.8 The Derivative as a Function
- Chapter 3:
 - 3.1 Derivatives of Polynomials and Exponential Functions
 - 3.2 The Product and Quotient Rules
 - 3.3 Derivatives of Trigonometric Functions
 - 3.4 The Chain Rule
 - 3.5 Implicit Differentiation
 - 3.6 Derivatives of Logarithmic Functions
 - 3.9 Related Rates
 - 3.10 Linear Approximations and Differentials
- Chapter 4:
 - 4.1 Maximum and Minimum Values
 - 4.2 The Mean Value Theorem
 - 4.3 How Derivatives Affect the Shape of a Graph
 - 4.4 Indeterminate Forms and l'Hospital's Rule
 - 4.5 Summary of Curve Sketching

- 4.7 Optimization Problems
- 4.9 Antiderivatives
- Chapter 5:
 - 5.1 Areas and Distances
 - 5.2 The Definite Integral
 - 5.3 The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus
 - 5.4 Indefinite Integrals and the Net Change Theorem
 - 5.5 The Substitution Rule

Tentative Test Dates - subject to change	
Test 1	Tues. 9/12
Mastery Exam	Thur. 10/5; location - TBD at time TBD
Test 2	Tues. 10/24
Test 3	Tues. 11/14
Final	Tues. 12/5, 19:10 – 21:00; location - TBD

All watches and headphones must be removed and out of site during exams and quizzes. **ALL internet capable devices such as computers, phones and smart-watches, etc., are to be turned off and made inaccessible for the duration of an exam. Accessing one for any reason will result in an automatic score of 0 for the exam and referral to the dean for possible further action.** All papers associated with an exam (including scratch paper) MUST be submitted with the exam.

Your chance to challenge the grading of exams/quizzes expires two weeks after exams grades have been posted to the class or until you leave the room with the graded paper.

Students in face-to-face or online courses taking exams/quizzes at Arizona State University should expect to be proctored. The process includes verifying the identity of the student and providing either live proctors or other forms of proctoring during the exam/quiz. In the case of face-to-face courses, students can be required to show a valid identification card, and expect to be monitored by proctors while taking either an exam/quiz.

Grading Rubric:

Grade Allocations	
Tests	50%
Homeworks, Quizzes & Recitations	25%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Grade Assignment	
A	90%+
B	80% - 89.99%
C	70% - 79.99%
D	60% - 69.99%
E	<60%

Grades reflect your performance on assignments and adherence to deadlines. Graded assignments will be available within one week of the due date via the grade link provided.

Email: ASU email is an official means of communication among students, faculty, and staff. Students are expected to read and act upon messages in a timely fashion. Students bear the responsibility of missed messages and should check their ASU-assigned email regularly. (Do NOT use canvas messaging.) My response time for email is usually within 48 hours (discounting weekends and holidays). You should have received an email outlining proper email etiquette, please refer to it for required information and follow the guidelines. *All instructor correspondence will be sent to your ASU email account.*

Course time commitment: Mathematics (and other hard sciences) require you to spend a good deal of time outside of class. This four-credit course requires approximately 180 hours of work. Please expect to spend around 24 hours each week preparing for and actively participating in this course

Quizzes: May be given, they may or may not be announced. Some quizzes may be administered online via WeBWorK, <https://webwork.asu.edu>. Make-ups will not be given for ANY reason; for this reason, your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Exams: There will be three midterms, a mastery exam, and one final exam given during the semester. Exams are usually given in your class on the date indicated elsewhere in this syllabus. Calculators will not be allowed on exams. You will be required to show a picture ID in which you are clearly recognizable in the picture (i.e. no faded out pictures or extremely old IDs will be accepted); failure to have your picture ID for an exam will result in no score. Makeup exams are given at the discretion of the instructor and *only* in the case of *verified* medical or other emergency, which *must* be documented. The instructor must be notified *before* the test is given. Call the Math Department Office (480-965-3951) and leave a message or directly notify your instructor.

Mastery Exam Information: The mastery exam is for the student to demonstrate expertise at using the rules for differentiation. The exam has half the weight of a regular midterm. Calculators are NOT allowed on the exam. Two attempts will be allowed to achieve mastery, 90%. A score of 18 points (90%) or better on the first mastery attempt, will be awarded a grade of 100% and the exam will not be taken again. If the score is less than 18 on the first attempt, the exam will need to be retaken. Failure to retake the exam, will result in a score of 0 for the exam. For the second attempt, if mastery is achieved, a score of 90% will be awarded. If the exam is not mastered on the second attempt, 85% of the score achieved on the second attempt will be awarded.

Homework: Will be administered two ways:

- Most homework problems will be online via WeBWorK, <https://webwork.asu.edu>. Due dates appear on WeBWorK. **Extensions are not granted for ANY reason; for this reason, your 3 lowest WeBWorK scores are dropped.**
- Written problems will be assigned, they are to be submitted at the *beginning* of your recitation class the week they are due. **No late homework will be accepted for ANY reason; for this reason, your lowest written homework score will be dropped.**

Recitations: Recitations help students to improve conceptual understanding in a collaborative work environment. You will be assigned group work in your recitation classes. This work is from your recitation workbook, you must have your book with you for class. It will be collected during the class.

****You are allowed 1 free absence from recitation. After that, deduction will be as follows: 2 absences, -1% from your course grade; 3 absences, -5% from your course grade; 4 absences, -10%; 5 or more absences, -20% from your course grade for each absence. These deductions are in addition to the points that you will lose for not being there to do the work. **To have your attendance count, you must arrive in class on time and remain the entire class time; late arrival or early departure results in an absence.****

Technology: Unless your instructor has given permission, you may not use your personal technology in the classroom. This means cell phones, tablets, and personal computers are put away. In all

cases, cell phones must be *turned off at all times* in the classroom. Violation of this policy results in your being dropped from the class, no further warnings will be given. Graphing Calculator: A graphing calculator is recommended for this course. Examples of highly recommended models are the TI-nspire, TI 83/84 or Casio 9850GB Plus. Calculators that do symbolic algebra, such as the Casio FX2, Casio 9970Gs, TI-89, TI-92, or TI-nspire CAS cannot be used during an exam/quiz for which calculator use is allowed.

Important Dates:

Add Deadline	Aug. 23
Drop Deadline	Aug. 30
Labor Day – NO CLASSES	Sep. 4
First Test	Sep. 12
Fall Break – NO CLASSES	Oct. 9–10
Mastery Exam	Oct. 5
Second Test	Oct. 24
Course Withdrawal Deadline	Nov. 1
Veteran’s Day Observed – NO CLASSES	Nov. 10
Third Test	Nov. 14
Thanksgiving Break – NO CLASSES	Nov. 23–24
Complete Withdrawal Deadline.....	Dec. 1
Note: It is the student’s responsibility to verify that (s)he has in fact withdrawn from the class.	
Course Final	Dec. 5

Extra Help: Do not hesitate to come to my office during office hours or by appointment to discuss a homework problem or any aspect of the course. You may also seek out your TAs for office hours and use the Math Community Center (known as MC² and located in WXL R A303) for other TAs who may have time to help. MC² is a good place to meet and work with other mathematics students.

For technical support, use the Help icon in the black global navigation menu in your Canvas course or visit <https://tech.asu.edu/services/ec>. Support representatives employed at ASU are available to assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

COURSE POLICIES

Students are responsible for material covered in class whether or not it is in the text. Working regularly on assigned problems and attending class is essential to survive. You are expected to read the text, preferably before the material is covered in class. Quizzes are given (some randomly and some scheduled) frequently; they reflect material that has recently been discussed in class. No late HW will be accepted and no make-up quizzes will be given. Make-up exams are at the discretion of the instructor and only in case of documented emergency. In any case, no make-up exams will be given unless the student has notified the instructor before the test is given. *Please schedule an appointment to see me during office hours if you have a disability that will require accommodations in this class.*

SoMSS and University Policies and Procedures

For semester deadlines related to enrollment, withdrawal or payments, see the academic calendar available at <http://students.asu.edu/academic-calendar>

Absence policies

Excessive tardiness will be subject to sanctions. Under no circumstances should you allow your cell phone to ring during class. Any disruptive behavior, which includes ringing cell phones, listening to your mp3/iPod player, text messaging, constant talking, eating food noisily, reading a newspaper will not be tolerated. The use of laptops (unless for lecture note taking), cell phones, MP3, IPOD, etc are strictly prohibited during class. Students who engage in disruptive classroom behavior may be subject to various sanctions. If you are late to class or leave early, you will be counted absent. Any student failing to attend the first week of classes may be administratively dropped from the course.

Excused absences related to university-sanctioned events/activities must be in accordance with ACD 304-02, "Missed Classes Due to University-Sanctioned Activities."

Absences related to religious observances/practices. If you will be absent from class due to a religious observance or practice, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor as soon as possible. Your instructor will work with you on alternative and reasonable arrangements for any time missed.

Grade Appeals

Grade disputes must first be addressed by discussing the situation with the instructor. If the dispute is not resolved with the instructor, the student may appeal to the department chair per the University Policy for Student Appeal Procedures on Grades.

Academic Integrity

Students must use their own, original work. Students must refrain from obtaining, uploading or submitting material that is not the student's original work to any course assignment or discussion used in this course or any other course unless the students first comply with all applicable citation guidelines and copyright laws. Faculty members reserve the right to delete materials on the grounds of suspected plagiarism and copyright infringement and impose sanctions as listed below.

Academic dishonesty includes any act of academic deceit, including but not limited to possessing, reviewing, buying, selling, obtaining, posting on a site accessible to others, reviewing materials from a site accessible to others, or using, without appropriate authorization, any materials intended to be used for an academic evaluation.

Academic integrity and anti-plagiarism policy

Academic honesty is expected of all students in any materials intended to be used for an academic evaluation, including, but not limited to: all examinations, papers, presentations, laboratory work, academic transactions and records. The possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification and dismissal. For more information, see <http://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity>.

Plagiarism (<https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity/resources/students#avoiding-plagiarism>) of any kind will not be tolerated. Students must take exams independently without assistance from other students. Students may not submit papers written by persons other than themselves. Students must submit original work for this course and may not submit papers previously submitted

to (an) other class (es). The ASU student academic integrity policy lists violations in detail. These violations fall into five broad areas that include but are not limited to: (1) Cheating on an academic evaluation or assignment; (2) Plagiarizing; (3) Academic deceit, such as fabricating data or information; (4) Aiding academic integrity policy violations and inappropriately collaborating; (5) Falsifying academic records. See <https://provost.asu.edu/academic-integrity>

Copyrighted materials

All the content in this course, including lectures, are copyrighted materials. Students may not share outside the class, upload, sell or distribute course content or notes taken during the conduct of the course (see ACD 304-06). Students may not upload to any course shell, discussion board or website used by the course instructor or other course forum, material that is not the student's original work, unless the student first complies with all applicable copyright laws. The instructor reserves the right to delete materials on the grounds of suspected copyright infringement (see ACD 304-10).

Prohibition of distributing or selling class notes

Students may not share outside the class, upload, sell, or distribute course content or notes taken during the course. In accordance with ACD 304-06 Commercial Note Taking Services, written permission must be secured from the official instructor of the class in order to sell the instructor's oral communication in the form of notes. Notes must have the notetaker's name as well as the instructor's name, the course number, and the date.

Sanctions for academic integrity violations

Possible sanctions include, but are not limited to, appropriate grade penalties, course failure (indicated on the transcript as a grade of E), course failure due to academic dishonesty (indicated on the transcript as a grade of XE), loss of registration privileges, disqualification and dismissal from ASU. For more information, see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>.

Student conduct and appropriate behavior

Additionally, required behavior standards are listed in the Student Code of Conduct and Student Disciplinary Procedures, Computer, Internet, and Electronic Communications policy, SSM 104-02 policy against threatening behavior, per the Student Services Manual, "Handling Disruptive, Threatening, or Violent Individuals on Campus", and outlined by the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities. Anyone in violation of these policies is subject to sanctions.

Students are entitled to receive instruction free from interference by other members of the class. An instructor may withdraw a student from the course when the student's behavior disrupts the educational process per Instructor Withdrawal of a Student for Disruptive Classroom Behavior.

Netiquette –appropriate online behavior– is defined by the instructor and includes keeping course discussion posts focused on the assigned topics. Students must maintain a cordial atmosphere and use tact in expressing differences of opinion. Inappropriate discussion posts may be deleted by the instructor.

If you deem content shared by an instructor or student offensive, bring it to the attention of the instructor or, alternatively, to the unit chair or director.

The Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities accepts incident reports from students, faculty, staff, or other persons who believe that a student or a student organization may have violated the Student Code of Conduct.

Prohibition against discrimination, harassment, and retaliation (Title VII and IX)

Policy on Discrimination, harassment, and retaliation

Arizona State University is committed to providing an environment free of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation for the entire university community, including all students, faculty members, staff employees, and guests. ASU expressly prohibits discrimination, harassment, and retaliation by employees, students, contractors, or agents of the university based on any protected status.

Title VII

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is a federal law that provides that no person be discriminated against based on certain specified characteristics: sex, race, color, national origin and religion, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, and genetic information. Inappropriate conduct need not rise to the level of a violation of federal or state law to constitute a violation of this policy and to warrant disciplinary action/sanctions.

Title IX

Title IX is a federal law that provides that no person be excluded on the basis of sex from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. Both Title IX and university policy make clear that sexual violence and harassment based on sex is prohibited.

Reporting Title VII and IX violations

Your instructor is a mandated reporter and therefore obligated to report any information regarding alleged acts of sexual discrimination, including sexual violence and dating violence.

An individual who believes they have been subjected to sexual violence or harassed on the basis of sex can seek support, including counseling and academic support, from the university. If you or someone you know has been harassed on the basis of sex or sexually assaulted, you can find information and resources at <http://sexualviolenceprevention.asu.edu/faqs>.

Violations of these policies may result in disciplinary action, including termination of employees or expulsion of students. Students are encouraged to report harassment to instructors and the Dean of Students Office.

ASU Counseling Services, <https://eoss.asu.edu/counseling>, is available if you wish to discuss any concerns confidentially and privately.

Course evaluation

Students are expected to complete the course evaluation. The feedback provides valuable information to the instructor and the college and is used to improve student learning. Students are notified when the online evaluation form is available.

Statement on inclusion

Arizona State University is deeply committed to positioning itself as one of the great new universities by seeking to build excellence, enhance access and have an impact on our community, state, nation and the world. To do that requires our faculty and staff to reflect the intellectual, ethnic and cultural diversity of our nation and world so that our students learn from the broadest perspectives, and we engage in the advancement of knowledge with the most inclusive understanding possible of the issues we are addressing through our scholarly activities. We recognize that race and gender historically have been markers of diversity in institutions of higher education. However, at ASU, we believe

that diversity includes additional categories such as socioeconomic background, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, veteran status, nationality and intellectual perspective.

Land acknowledgement

ASU acknowledges the twenty-two Native Nations that have inhabited this land for centuries. Arizona State University's four campuses are located in the Salt River Valley on ancestral territories of Indigenous peoples, including the Akimel O'odham (Pima) and Pee Posh (Maricopa) native communities. We acknowledge the sovereignty of these nations and seek to foster an environment of success and possibility for Native American students and patrons.

Mental health

Students may experience a range of challenges that can interfere with learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, substance use, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These emotional health concerns or stressful events may diminish academic performance and/or reduce the ability to participate in daily activities. ASU Counseling Services provides counseling and crisis services for students who are experiencing a mental health concern. Any student may call or walk-in to any ASU counseling center for a same day or future appointment to discuss any personal concern. ASU's dedicated crisis line is available 24/7 for crisis consultation by calling 480-921-1006. New telehealth counseling system MySSP provides "Open Call and Open Chat" allows students to talk to counselors immediately, 24/7 and 365 days a year. Students can also schedule continued counseling through MySSP. Counseling is available in 50 languages and services are available anywhere in the world.

Accessibility statement

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended (ADAAA) of 2008, professional disability specialists and support staff at the Student Accessibility and Inclusive Learning Services (SAILS) facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

Qualified students with disabilities may be eligible to receive academic support services and accommodations. Eligibility is based on qualifying disability documentation and assessment of individual need. Students who believe they have a current and essential need for disability accommodations are responsible for requesting accommodations and providing qualifying documentation to SAILS. Every effort is made to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

Qualified students who wish to request accommodation for a disability should contact SAILS by going to <https://eoss.asu.edu/accessibility>, calling (480) 965-1234 or emailing Student.Accessibility@asu.edu.

Course Withdrawal

A student may withdraw from a course with a grade of W during the withdrawal period. The instructor's signature is not required. It is a student's responsibility to verify that they have in fact withdrawn from a class.

Instructor-Initiated Drop:

At the instructor's discretion, any student who has not attended class during the first week of classes may be administratively dropped from the course. However, students should be aware that non-attendance would NOT automatically result in being dropped from the course. Thus, a student should not assume they are no longer registered for a course simply because they did not attend

class during the first week. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of their registration status.

The grade of Incomplete

A grade of incomplete will be awarded only in the event that a documented emergency or illness prevents the student who is doing acceptable work (C or better) from completing a small percentage of the course requirements. (I use no more than 15% of the work remaining, including the final.) The guidelines in the current general ASU catalog regarding a grade of incomplete will be strictly followed.

Failing grades (The E, EN and EU grades)

— The E grade is for students who participated in the class but did not earn enough credit to pass or attain the D grade.

— The EN grade is for student who never once participated in the class. At the instructor's discretion, any student who has not attended class during the first week of classes may be administratively dropped from the course. However, students should be aware that non-attendance would NOT automatically result in being dropped from the course. Thus, a student should not assume they are no longer registered for a course simply because they did not attend class during the first week. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of their registration status.

— The EU grade is for students who participated, but then stopped after a certain point and never resumed.

Final Exam Make-up Policy:

The final exam schedule listed in the Schedule of Classes will be strictly followed. Except to resolve those situations described below, no changes may be made in this schedule without prior approval of the Dean of the college in which the course is offered.

1. religious conflict (e.g., the student celebrates the Sabbath on Saturday)
2. the student has more than three exams scheduled on the same day as the math final
3. there is a time conflict between the math final and another final exam.

Make-up exams will NOT be given for reasons of a non-refundable airline tickets, vacation plans, work schedules, weddings, family reunions, and other such activities. Students should consult the final exam schedule before making end-of-semester travel plans. The Dean of the student's college must approve any exceptions to these rules.

Early Examination Requests (Reference: ACD 304-01):

Requests for early final examinations may not be granted by instructors. Requests that seem to have merit may be referred to the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled. If the dean finds that a student must leave early because of circumstances beyond the student's control, the dean may authorize arrangements whereby the student can complete the course work and take the final examination before leaving. Ordinarily, however, it will be necessary for the dean to advise the student to clear with each instructor and arrange for an "incomplete" grade in each course. Under the policy covering "incompletes," the student must arrange to complete the course work and take the final examination within one calendar year. If the student is unable to return to the university to take a final examination for the removal of the "incomplete," the dean may make arrangements for the student to take the final elsewhere, under reliable supervision.

Ethics

It is highly unethical to bring to your instructor's attention the possible impact of your mathematics grade on your future plans, including graduation, scholarships, jobs, etc. The instructor may exercise an option to withdraw you from the course if they think you are compromising the ability to assess your work independently of any other consideration. Students found to be involved in academic dishonesty will be removed from the class and a grade of E for the course will be submitted to the registrar. The student will be advised to repeat the course with another professor, possibly at another institution. This is the least action taken. Further, more serious actions may be taken if the situation indicated that such actions are appropriate. We will act very harshly against cheating during Quizzes or Exams. For the university's complete policy regarding ethics, including cheating, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty, see the Student Academic Integrity Policy at the following web address: <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>

Calculus with Analytic Geometry I/II/III

What is a recitation?

This course has a mandatory weekly 50 minute recitation, usually taught by a TA (Teaching Assistant). Recitation is where you hand in your written homework for the week. The homework is due at the beginning of the recitation; it should be placed on the table at the front of the room by the time class begins. The TA may give a brief lecture and answer a few questions, and then for most of the session, you will work in groups to solve problems from the recitation workbook. This work is handed in at the end of the session. Frequently, there will be a brief 5-10 minute quiz at the end of the recitation class to help you prepare for the exams.

Why do we have recitation?

The lectures have a limited time and frequently a large number of students, hence there tends to be more time spent listening than doing. As mathematics requires active problem solving, the best way to accomplish this is with the recitations with smaller numbers of students and very little lecture. The recitation is an opportunity for you to problem solve with other students so that you can benefit from more perspectives. In addition, being able to communicate mathematics is an important tool to determine how well you understand; so discussing problems in small groups builds useful skills.

Why doesn't the TA spend the entire recitation answering questions?

Having the TA speak the whole time would defeat the primary purpose of the recitation being a problem solving environment. There are many other opportunities to ask homework or even general questions. Your instructor has several office hours every week, your TA holds office hours every week, you can use the Mathematics Community Center (located in WXL R A303) to get help from other TAs, you can use the email instructor button within WeBWorK to get help on a specific homework question, and/or you can email your instructor or TA. These resources are all available outside recitation where we want you to concentrate on group collaboration.

You said recitation is mandatory What if I cannot make it?

If you miss recitations, your course grade will suffer; see your syllabus for further information on this aspect.

If you have a conflict for a particular week and it is impossible for you to attend your recitation, then you need to contact your TA (copy your instructor on the email). If possible for you to attend another recitation being held by your TA that week, you may arrange to attend the other recitation that one week; making sure that your homework is turned in on time for your recitation. If your TA does not have another session that week that you can attend, it is possible that another TA who does can allow you to come to their recitation that week; even this arrangement needs to be arranged via your TA (making sure the instructor is copied on all communications regarding this). Do not attempt to attend a different recitation without advance permission, you will not be given credit. This policy is in place in case you get ill or need to attend an ASU sponsored activity. No more than two such exceptions will be allowed.

If you have a frequent conflict, then you registered for the wrong recitation and that is a problem.

How is the recitation graded?

The recitation is meant to be a low stress environment. Your grade for each recitation is based on your adequate preparation and participation in the group work. If you show up for an entire session and make a legitimate effort to contribute within your group, you will get full credit for the recitation. If you goof off, ignore your group, or work on things other than the assigned calculus

problems, you will be docked points. If you show up late, you will be counted absent and get no credit. The decision of the TA on participation grading is final.

In addition to a recitation score each week, you may have a quiz. Each quiz is graded on a 10 point basis. Each written homework that you submit is recitation is graded on a 10 point basis. See more information regarding quiz and homework policies in your syllabus.

Overall, the recitation score, quiz scores, and written homework score make 20% of your overall course grade.

Do I need to solve all of the problems assigned every week?

Absolutely not! The problem sets are (usually) designed to make sure that you do not run out of problems to work on. That means that most groups will not complete all of the problems assigned each week before the end of the recitation. If particular problems will be looked at (perhaps even graded), you will be warned in advance so you can be sure to work those first. This does not mean that you stop working once you have those solved or your recitation grade will suffer.

Frequently, each group is given a different primary problem or two that the group will present to the rest of the class. These are the first problems the group works on, once they have solved those, they can choose (as a group) which one to work on next.

I would prefer it if the recitation was not graded at all.

I have done this course with and without recitations. The average student gets over 90% in the recitation portion of their grade. Without the recitation grades, at least 15% more of your grade would be determined by exams. This means, that in the vast majority of cases, having a graded recitation will increase your overall average in the course giving you a better chance of passing. In other words, a graded recitation is much more likely to help you than to hurt you.

I have more questions.

You should certainly ask your TA and or instructor if you have questions that have not been addressed here, just as you should do with any question about calculus.