

**MATH 270–005: Calculus I**  
SPRING 2024  
MoTuWeTh 12:00–12:50, MDD 207

**Instructor:** Arturo Magidin  
**Office Hours:** MoWe 13:10-14:00, Tu 10:30-11:30, Th 13:30-15:00, or by arrangement.  
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**Course homepage:** <http://userweb.ucs.louisiana.edu/~avm1260/math270.html>  
**Course Moodle Page:** MATH270-005-202440.

**PREREQUISITES:** Consent of the Department.

**TEXTBOOK:** *Calculus, Early Transcendentals, Third Edition*, by William Briggs, Lyle Cochran, Bernard Gillett, and Eric Schulz. Pearson, 2019. We will do a quick review of Chapter 1, and the course will cover Chapters 2–5, and Section 6.1.

**MOODLE:** I will keep a MOODLE page associated to the course. The page will contain hand-outs and important dates, same as the course page listed above (solutions to homeworks and exams, homeworks due, etc).

**MY OFFICE AND OFFICE HOURS:** My office is in Maxim Doucet Hall Room 404. I will have four office hour sessions a week, tentatively set as above. We can also meet by appointment if you cannot make the regular office hours. Email me, or see me just before or just after class to make an appointment. **Feel free to ask for an appointment, especially if you cannot make the regular office hours for some reason.**

**READING THE BOOK PRIOR TO ATTENDING CLASS:** Each class, I will note which section of the book you should read before the next lecture. Be sure to read it even if you do not think you understand it. It makes class time much more useful, allowing the ideas to percolate through and letting you pay more attention to what is being said in lecture.

**HOMEWORKS:** Homework is a major part of this course, and very important. Mathematics is learned almost exclusively by doing, and that is what homework is for: to help you understand the material, and to help you zero in on the material you are finding difficult. Do not be afraid to ask for help from your fellow students, or most especially **from me**. In fact, that’s basically what my office hours are for.

I cannot assign as much homework as I think you should do, because the volume would be too much for us all to handle. So you should try to do more than the assigned problems; some problems will be recommended (see below), but you may want to try even more problems.

Homework will be assigned almost every day. Assignments are usually due on Thursdays. Homework assigned on a Wednesday is due the following week. I may change the schedule a bit to accommodate very long or very short assignments, as well as midterms. In that case, I will give you sufficient advance notice of the change.

You may work on the homework in groups. However, *each of you must write up his or her own work individually*. Please be assured, it is almost invariably very easy to tell when someone is copying. I will give you worked out solutions to the assigned homework problems as you turn them in. Be sure to read them, and compare it with your graded assignments. **Homework is due at the beginning of class, as you come in. I will not accept late homeworks for any reason.**

**ASSIGNED vs. RECOMMENDED PROBLEMS:** In the list I give you there are two classes of problems for each section: *Assigned* and *Recommended*. *Assigned problems* are the problems you must write up and turn in each week. *Recommended problems* are problems that you probably want to do on your own.

**QUIZZES:** Most weeks, usually on Tuesday, we will have a short 2 question quiz, based on the homework turned in the previous Thursday. One question will be taken directly from the homework. Again, I may change the day to accommodate holidays and exams, and if so I will let you know ahead of time.

**TESTS:** There will be three in-class chapter tests, covering Chapters 2, 3, and 4, respectively; there will also be a two and a half hour comprehensive final exam. They will take place on the following days:

**Chapter 2 Test:** Thursday February 8.  
**Chapter 3 Test:** Thursday March 14.  
**Chapter 4 Test:** Thursday April 11.  
**Final:** Tuesday April 30, 2:00 pm – 4:30 pm.

**DIFFERENTIATION SKILLS TEST:** When we finish Chapter 3, I will give a take-home *Differentiation Skills Test*. It consists of 10 functions you will be asked to differentiate. **You must pass this test by scoring at least 70 out of 100 before the last day of instruction to pass this course, but you may take it as many times as you need to until you pass.** Your score will be added to your final grade (see below). Once you score 70 or more, you cannot re-take the test.

**GRADING:** Your final grade will be based on your homeworks and class participation, quizzes, chapter tests, and final, in the following way:

Homeworks, Quizzes, and class participation:	20%
Chapter 2 Test	15%
Chapter 3 Test	20%
Chapter 4 Test	20%
Final	25%

I will drop your lowest two homework scores and your lowest two quiz scores before averaging each separately. I will take each score and scale it appropriately so your final score is out of 1000 (so the final will be worth up to 250 points, the first midterm up to 100, your homework/quiz scores up to 200, etc). Before figuring out your letter grade, I will add half your score from the Differentiation Skills Test, so this will count as extra-credit directly into your final grade (up to 50 points out of 1000).

Note that getting 100% on the final is not enough to pass the course (though it cannot hurt). I do not curve, but I do scale (ask if you do not understand the difference).

I do not have a rigid correspondence between numerical and letter grades; this is where consideration for people who have improved (or not) throughout the semester comes in, or for people who do exceedingly well in the final, etc. For your reference, however, the following is a good approximation. Taking your final grade of 1000 points:

Letter grade	Approximate
	Approx. Range
<b>A</b>	900 – 1000
<b>B</b>	775 – 875
<b>C</b>	650 – 750
<b>D</b>	550 – 625
<b>F</b>	0 – 550.

**TIME REQUIREMENTS:** Expect to spend about 8–10 hours a week on this course, in addition to the four lectures. This includes working on homework, reading, and reviewing. If you find yourself regularly spending considerably more time than this, let me know!

**MAKE-UP WORK:** I do not receive late homeworks and will not allow anyone to make up any homeworks not turned in. If you cannot make it to class, have someone drop off the homework for you. If you will not be able to take an exam for a **valid** absence (illness, family emergency, UL-sponsored travel, etc), you must **notify me in advance** and we will arrange for a make-up exam.