

MATH 150 Differential Calculus with Review

Fall 2020 Course Policy Sheet

Instructor:	Dr. Colin Starr	Office Hours*:	MW As available
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* All “office” hours will be held via Zoom.

Required Text: *Calculus I with Integrated Precalculus*, by Laura Taalman (ISBN 1-4292-4073-3).

Goals: This course is an introduction to differential calculus. Upon successful completion of Math 150 the student should be able to:

1. Justify and explain their steps in problem solving. In particular, students should be able to construct correct and detailed mathematical arguments to justify their claimed solutions to problems.
2. Explain the idea of a limit and evaluate the limit or estimate the limit using a calculator or from a graph.
3. Describe a derivative as the limit of an average rate of change and as the slope of a tangent line to a curve.
4. Understand and interpret the derivative as a rate of change, calculate derivatives, and apply derivatives to solve problems.
5. Understand and interpret the definition of the definite integral and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Course structure: Our classroom will be “flipped.” That means that “lecture” occurs outside of class: there are recorded lectures available for you to watch on our Google groups site or from the link on our course page. You are responsible for watching the assigned videos **before** class. I will assume that you have watched them and have some reasonable idea of what the content is. The lectures include definitions, theorems, examples, etc. – everything you would expect from a normal lecture except for the opportunity to ask me questions. (That comes in class.) As you watch, you should pause frequently to take notes, make sure you understand the material, work through examples before I do, and write down any questions you have. In class, we will work through additional examples and deal with questions, as well as explore applications. We will also spend a little time on homework each day, so be sure to bring a laptop or other device with which you can access our online homework system (see below). One major advantage of this system is that you can listen to the lecture as many times as you want throughout the semester. Make use of that opportunity! In class, we will recap the lecture, go over questions, and work on mini-“projects” (see below).

Note that class will be recorded. Our class will be held with Zoom for remote students, and I will put recordings of classes in our WISE site. These are not for distribution of any kind, but only for our use.

Assessment: Your grade will be computed as follows:

WeBWorK:	300 points
Written work:	250 points
Midterm Exams:	3@ 100 points each
Final Exam:	150 points
Total:	1000 points

Grades must fall into the categories below to guarantee the corresponding letter grade. Plus and minus grades are at my discretion but generally correspond to trends in your performance.

Letter Grade	A	B	C	D	F
Minimum Percentage	90	80	70	60	
Minimum Points	900	800	700	600	

As a general rule, you should not expect any “curving.” The grades correspond to a level of achievement, not a relative ranking in the class. However, if you focus on learning what we study, the grades will take care of themselves. They should be among the least of your worries.

WeBWorK: This is an on-line homework system. The problems will be very much like those in the text, so the text problems can give you additional practice. Note that WeBWorK is worth 30% of your grade. In WeBWorK, you may keep trying problems you miss until you get them right. This means that **everyone** should get 100% on homework, so take advantage of the system by not giving up. At the same time, you should **not** just guess at answers until one works; this is a counterproductive waste of time. If you are struggling, **come see me!** The address for our WeBWorK site is <https://secure.willamette.edu/webwork2/Math249-Starr/> and there is a link on our course homepage. Please be sure to do more than just the WeBWorK. WeBWorK is the graded portion, but it is not sufficient by itself. WeBWorK assignments will become available before class time on the morning they are assigned. They are due at 11:59 PM on the due date, and answers will then be available. You are very welcome to come by my office with questions.

Please note: You should expect to spend at least three hours outside of class for every hour we have in class. Part of that time is homework/WeBWorK, part is watching the lectures, and part is general studying.

Written work: We will have regular mini-”projects.” These are small-group assignments that we will start in class, and whatever is left becomes homework. They are due 3 days after they are assigned. (E.g., one assigned on 8/24 is due 8/27.) When you are finished, upload a picture of your work to the corresponding assignment in WISE. Be sure the picture is clear and readable and contains all of the work you want me to see. Please use a standard format (e.g., jpg or pdf), and try to keep the file size as small as possible. Uploads to WISE of your written work should be a single file.

Exams: There are three midterm exams; the dates below **are subject to change** if necessary.

Exam I	Wednesday, September 16
Exam II	Monday, October 12
Exam III	Friday, November 6

The final exam will be an oral exam administered via Zoom. Midterms will be either written or oral, depending on circumstances.

Please note: Written responses to all questions must be in complete sentences. I expect correct use of grammar, spelling, and punctuation; your grade will reflect this! I also expect your work to be neat.

Special Needs: If you have special needs (e.g., for a documented disability), it is your responsibility to approach me at least a day in advance of the need for accommodation. To receive accommodation, you must be registered with Disability Services; this office is located in Bishop Health Center in Baxter Hall. (Phone: (503) 370-6471.)

Diversity Statement: Willamette University values diversity and inclusion, and so do I. We are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. My goal is to create a learning environment that is usable, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or accurate assessment or achievement, please notify me as soon as possible. Students with disabilities are also encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Services office in Matthews 103 at 503-370-6737 or Accessible-info@willamette.edu to discuss a range of options to removing barriers in the course, including accommodations.

Cheating: Cheating will not be tolerated. The minimum penalty for cheating is a 0 on the assignment and a formal notification to the dean. I encourage you to work together on your homework, but your final write-up **must** be your own. **NOTE:** It is your responsibility to avoid even the **appearance** of cheating. See the website below for the Willamette policy on cheating and plagiarism.

<http://willamette.edu/cla/catalog/policies/plagiarism-cheating.php>

DACA/Undocumented Student Advocate: Willamette is committed to supporting our DACA/Undocumented students in a variety of ways. This year, Delia Olmos-García is the contact person for all DACA/undocumented students. She can provide students with a number of external and internal resources. Her email address is dolmosga@willamette.edu, her office is Fine Arts West 232B, and her phone number is 503-370-6371.

Commitment to Positive Sexual Ethics: Willamette is a community committed to fostering safe, productive learning environments, and we value ethical sexual behaviors and standards. Title IX and our school policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, which regards sexual misconduct including discrimination, harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. We understand that sexual violence can undermine students' academic success, and we encourage affected students to talk to someone about their experiences and get the support they need. Please be aware that as a mandatory reporter I am required to report any instances you disclose to me to Willamette's Title IX Coordinator. If you would rather share information with a confidential employee who does not have this responsibility, please contact our confidential advocate at confidential-advocate@willamette.edu. Confidential support also can be found with SARAs and at the GRAC (503-851-4245); and at WUTalk, a 24-hour telephone crisis counseling support line (503-375-5353). If you are in immediate danger, please call campus safety at 503-370-6911.

Transition plan: The course is set up in such a way that if we need to move to distance learning, we can do so relatively seamlessly. WeBWorK, projects, and lectures are all accessible online. The final exam is already set up as a Zoom exam, and midterms can also become Zoom exams if necessary. Attendance at regular class meetings will continue to be expected, but via Zoom.

Classroom Comportment: We will all make mistakes, and these are an essential part of

learning. The classroom environment must be tolerant and welcoming so that everyone feels free to contribute without fear of ridicule or harassment. Treat everyone with respect, and we can all learn from each other.

You are WELCOME! Unfortunately, circumstances dictate that I not hold office hours in person, but you are welcome at any of my Zoom hours. You are also welcome to schedule other times with me, and I will do my best to accommodate your schedule. are welcome to come by at other times as well. Make sure you come see me whenever you have a question.