Math 141A-College Calculus I, Fall 2014 Course Information Sheet

Instructor:  David Hemmer

TA:  T.B.A.

Office:  211 or 226 (chair’s office) Mathematics Building

Email:  dhemmer@math.buffalo.edu

Office Phone:  645-8775

Class Meetings:

Lecture:  MWF 8:00-8:50 a.m.  NSC 218
Lab A1  M 4-4:50  250 Park
Lab A2  W 4-4:50  214 Obrian
Lab A3  F 4-4:50  106 Talbert

Office Hours:  Monday 10-12, Thursday 2:30-3:30 and by appointment.

Textbook:  

Single variable calculus: Early Transcendentals 7th custom UB edition by James Stewart.

Homework is online so it is not essential you use this text. Any reasonable calculus book designed for scientists and engineers, including older versions of Stewart will be fine. Be aware though that your Math 142 instructor may have a different policy and this text is used for both 141 and 142. The textbook bundled with WebAssign is available directly from Cengage at:

http://www.cengagebrain.com/micro/AGG201452-111048-403

This is cheaper than the bookstore and with free shipping! Do not buy a new book at the bookstore!

Contacting Dave:

Email is the easiest way to contact me. If you cannot make my office hours please feel free to schedule an appointment or drop by. I will post my schedule on the class website early in the term.

Course Description:

This course will cover most of chapters 2-5 in the textbook. You should already be familiar with the material in sections 1.1-1.4. We will review 1.5 and 1.6 (exponentials and logarithms) during the term. You should review information about the course learning goals and assessment methods at:

http://math.buffalo.edu/undergraduate/undergrad_syllabi.shtml

Prerequisites:  NYS Regents Math B or MTH 115.

ALEKS:  We will be piloting the ALEKS software in this class. Completion of the “Preparation for Calculus” course is required early in the semester. You should have already been contacted about this by email before the semester began.
Class Website: Course material is posted on the class website:

http://www.math.buffalo.edu/~dhemmer/141F14.html

I always encourage personal feedback on the course from students. However the website also includes a form to submit anonymous feedback on the course if you feel more comfortable.

Additional Help: The math help center in Room 110 opens on Sept. 8. Its hours are 9-4.

WebAssign: Homework is assigned and graded online via WebAssign:

https://www.webassign.net/login.html.

Each student already has a WebAssign account:

Username = UB person # ; Institution = buffalo ; Password = UB person #.

After 9/8/2014, you will need to have entered your key. If you buy the new textbook bundle you already have a key. If not you need to purchase one for $14.95 at

http://www.cengagebrain.com/micro/AGG201452-111048-403

Select as your course Math 141A. Then go to Calendar to see due dates/times of homework assignments. Homework is graded on-line in real time. It will be set up so you can have a second try on incorrect problems.

Recitations: For the most part recitations will be to go over problems similar to homework problems or perhaps to give additional reinforcement of material covered in class. Short quizzes will also be given most weeks.

Quizzes: We will have a short quiz (one or two problems) during recitation most weeks. Problems will be similar to homework assignments from the previous week. They will be graded out of 10 points. If you take the quiz and receive a score less than 8/10, you can raise your score to 8/10 by visiting my office hours or the TA’s office hours sometime in the next week and “convincing” me you understand your mistakes, usually by demonstrating you can solve similar problems.

Exams: There will be three “midterm” exams and one final exam. The first midterm is tentatively scheduled for Monday September 22. The remaining two will be announced as early as possible, the second midterm will be returned before the last day to resign, which is November 7.

Final Exam: The final exam is on Monday 12/8 from 8:00-11:00 a.m. in NSC 218. It will be cumulative with an emphasis on material covered after the third midterm.
Grading: I will determine your final grade out of 800 points as follows:

Homework: 150 points
Quizzes: 100 points
Midterms: 300 points (100 each)
Final Exam: 150 points
Timely completion of ALEKS assessment 50 points
Earning 90% on ALEKS “pie chart” 50 points

The lowest two homework grades and the lowest two quiz grades will be dropped.

Your final grade will not be lower than the usual letter grades (90-100% A range, 80-90% B range, etc…) although I reserve the right to “curve” grades higher.

Resigning/Dropping: The final day to drop a course (no record on your transcript) is September 2. The final day to resign from a course (R on your transcript) is November 7. If you are making up an incomplete from a previous instructor please see me to be sure you are following the proper procedures. Be aware Math 141 is a controlled enrollment course, you may not be allowed to take this class again during Fall or Spring semester. Consult the policy in the course catalog at:

http://undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu/policies/grading/repeat.shtml

Attendance: I expect regular class attendance, although I do not plan to keep track. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out what went on. If I announce in class the date of a midterm has been changed, you need to find this out! If you know ahead of time you will be unable to attend an examination for a valid reason, please let me know well in advance so we can make arrangements.

Electronic Devices: Please be respectful and keep phones and other devices silenced and stowed away!

Tardiness: Set your alarm! Classes at 8 a.m. tend to lead to epidemics of late arrivals. If this becomes a distraction, I will have to take some action….

Disabilities: If you require classroom or testing accommodations due to a disability, please contact Accessibility Resources, located at 25 Capen Hall. AR can be reached by phone at (716) 645-2608 or by email at stu-accessibility@buffalo.edu. Please inform me as soon as possible about your needs so that we can coordinate your accommodations.

Academic Honesty: The student conduct rules at http://www.ub-judiciary.buffalo.edu/rulereg.shtml/ will be enforced. A random sample of examination papers may be photocopied. Any cheating on exams will be given the maximum punishment possible. If you are having difficulties please talk to me about it rather than attempting to cheat!

Calculators: It may be useful to have a basic scientific calculator for homework assignments. However no calculators will be needed or permitted on examinations.