

Math 121 - Calculus & Analytic Geometry I

Fall 2010 Course Syllabus – Short Form

James Jones, Professor of Mathematics
Mathematics & Sciences Division – Richland Community College

This paper contains the highlights from the syllabus and is presented as a way of saving paper for those who prefer to read the syllabus online. You are responsible for all information in the complete syllabus, which is available on the instructor's website or by request.

Course Meeting Information

Section 01 meets from 12:45 to 2:10 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in room S137.

Instructor Information

James Jones, Professor of Mathematics.

Email: james@richland.edu

Web: <http://people.richland.edu/james/>

Phone: 875-7211, ext 490

Office: C223

Office Hours

These are the times I'm scheduled to be in my office. I often spend portions of my office hour in the classroom helping students, so if I'm not in my office, check room S137. If these times are not convenient for you, please see me to make an appointment for some other time.

Mon: 9:15 am - 10:10 am, 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Wed: 9:15 am - 10:10 am, 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Fri: 9:15 am - 10:10 am, 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Text

Calculus of a Single Variable, 9th edition. Ron Larson, Bruce Edwards. Copyright 2010, Brooks/Cole Cengage Learning. ISBN 978-0-547-20998-2 (Required)

Grading Policy

Letter grades will be assigned to final adjusted scores as follows:

A: 90-100% B: 80 - 89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: below 60%

Consideration may be given to such qualities as attendance, class participation, attentiveness, attitude in class, and cooperation to produce the maximum learning situation for everyone.

The instructor will give you a grade sheet so that you can record your scores and keep track of your progress in the course. There is also a web page that you can use to check your grades throughout the semester. If you are concerned about your grades, see the instructor.

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the date they are due. The instructor may be gracious and allow you to turn them in later that day without counting them late, but do not count on his graciousness. Late assignments lose 20% of their value per class period. The instructor reserves the right to apply this rule to missed exams as well as regular assignments. No late work will be accepted after the final.

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is essential for satisfactory completion of this course. Mathematics is a cumulative subject and each day builds on the previous day's material. If you have excessive absences, you cannot develop to your fullest potential in the course.

Students who, because of excessive absences, cannot complete the course successfully, are required to be administratively dropped from the class at midterm. If a student stops attending after midterm, it is the student's responsibility to withdraw to avoid an "F". Do not stop attending and assume that you will be withdrawn from the class by the instructor.

Although dropping students for non-attendance at midterm is required, students whose attendance is occasional or sporadic may be dropped from the class at any point during the semester at the instructor's discretion. The safest way to make sure you're not dropped for non-attendance is to continue to attend classes.

The student is responsible for all assignments, changes in assignments, or other verbal information given in the class, whether in attendance or not.

If a student must miss class, a call to the instructor (RCC's phone system has an answering system) should be made or an email message sent. When a test is going to be missed, the student should contact the instructor ahead of time if at all possible. Under certain circumstances, arrangements can be made to take the test before the scheduled time. If circumstances arise where arrangements cannot be made ahead of time, the instructor should be notified and a brief explanation of why given by either voice or email. This notification must occur before the next class period begins. At the instructor's discretion, the score on the final exam may be substituted for the missed exam.

Homework

Attempting and completing homework is vital to your success in this course. Homework is the practice that strengthens your skills and prepares you to learn the material. The worked out solutions to the odd numbered exercises are available online at www.calcchat.com. This is like having the student solutions manual for free. When you get stumped with a problem, you can go online and see how to work out the problem.

Having the solutions available fosters the temptation to use them to work the problems. This approach does not benefit the student. Instead, attempt the problem on your own first. If you get stuck with a minor algebra or trigonometry problem, then look at the online solution. If you find that your problems are more conceptual or that you keep getting stuck you need to seek additional help: read the book, look for similar examples, ask another student, go to the Student Learning Center, or ask the instructor.

As calculus students, you are some of the best and brightest mathematics students we have and you have some algebraic and trigonometric skills that most students are lacking. You should voluntarily do as much homework as you need to master the material. In this class, you will be given a list of suggested problems. If you find that you are understanding the concepts, this may be enough for you, but if you find that you still don't understand the material after working those problems, it may be necessary for you to work additional problems.