Differential Calculus (MAT21A)

A guide to students — UC Davis, Winter 2014

Dr. Dan Romik

This document collects useful information about the class in one place for easy reference. Please read all of it carefully as many of the facts below, though boring, are important.

1. **IMPORTANT: Math placement exam requirement.** In order to be enrolled in MAT21A, you *must* have taken the Math Placement Exam and received a qualifying grade.

   - See these links for more information:
     https://www.math.ucdavis.edu/undergrad/math_placement/
     https://www.math.ucdavis.edu/undergrad/math_placement/exam_faq/

   - If you still haven't taken the exam, you can still take it during the testing window from Jan. 3 at 1 PM to Jan. 9 at 1 PM. See the links above for more details on how to register and take the exam.

   - Students who haven't taken the exam or did not get a qualifying grade will be automatically dropped from the class by the math department after January 9.

2. **Class textbook.** The textbook for the class (and for 21B, 21C and 21D) is *Thomas' Calculus: Early Transcendentals, 12th Ed.* by Thomas, Weir and Hass.

3. **Class syllabus.** I will follow (to a reasonable accuracy) the official math department syllabus for the class, which can be found at this link:
   http://oldwww.math.ucdavis.edu/courses/syllabi/MAT%2021A%20Syllabus%20(Revised%20201301).pdf

4. **Class meeting place and times.** The class will consist of lectures with me (the prof.) and discussion sections in smaller groups with the teaching assistants (T.A.s).

   - Lectures: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 4:10-5:00 PM in Giedt Hall 1001.

   - Discussion section group A01 (Paige): Thursdays at 4:10-5:00 PM in Hoagland Hall 108

   - Discussion section group A03 (Zi): Thursdays at Chemistry 176

   - Discussion section group A04 (Jamie): Thursdays at 3:10-4:00 PM in Hoagland Hall 108

   - Discussion section group A05 (Paige): Thursdays at 5:10-6:00 PM in Physics 130

5. **Instructor details**

   - Instructor name: Dan Romik

   - Office: Mathematical Sciences Building (MSB) 2218

- email: `romik@math.ucdavis.edu`
- Office hours: Fridays 10-11 or by appointment. (This is a time when you can come and ask me questions about class material or administrative matters. Please come prepared with questions you already thought about. If you want to just come and listen to other students' questions that's okay, but office hours is not a place for you to work on your homework by yourself, read a book, play games or text on your phones etc.)

6. **T.A. details**

   - The T.A. for sections A01 (Thursdays 4–5) and A05 (Thursdays 5–6) is Paige Buck-Moyer
     - Paige's office: MSB 2204
     - Paige's email: `pjbuckmoyer@ucdavis.edu`
     - Paige's office hours: Thursdays 9–10
   - The T.A. for section A03 (Thursdays 6–7) is Zi Peng
     - Zi's email: `zrpeng@ucdavis.edu`
     - Zi's office is in the economics department so he will be holding office hours in the Calculus Room (see below) on Thursdays 4–5.
   - The T.A. for section A04 (Thursdays 3–4) is Jamie Haddock
     - Jamie's office: MSB 2232
     - Jamie's email: `jhaddock@ucdavis.edu`
     - Jamie's office hours: Wednesdays 3:10–4:00

7. **Calculus Room tutoring.** In addition to the T.A. and instructor office hours which you are encouraged to attend for personal help with your questions, the math department manages the Calculus Room, which is open throughout the week and where all students from calculus classes can come for hands-on assistance from tutors (including your T.A.s) with their questions.

   - Calculus Room web page:
     `https://www.math.ucdavis.edu/resources/calc_room/`
   - Calculus Room location and hours: Monday through Friday at 1–7 PM in Mathematical Sciences Building (MSB) 1118.
   - Paige's Calculus Room hours: Tuesdays 3–4, Wednesdays 1–2
   - Zi's Calculus Room hours: Mondays 4–6
   - Jamie's Calculus Room hours: Thursdays 1–2
   - The Student Academic Success Center also offers drop-in hours for math tutoring, see this link for the hours:
     `http://success.ucdavis.edu/academic/dropin.html`

- Zijing (Sherry) Zhu is an exchange student from China with good knowledge of calculus who has volunteered to help with tutoring for 21A students this quarter. She will be in the calculus room on Wednesdays 5-7 and will be very happy if you seek her help. You can also email her at szjzhu@ucdavis.edu if you have questions she can help with or if you want to ask her to meet with you at other times. You can call her Zijing or Sherry.

8. **Grading policy**

- The grade for the class will be based on two mid-term exams, one final exam, and 10 weekly 10-minute quizzes which will be held at the beginning of each discussion section. The scores for each of these grade components will be weighted according to the following weighting scheme:

40%	to the highest of the three exam scores
30%	to the second-highest of the three exam scores
20%	to the lowest of the exam scores
10%	to the quizzes average score
(100%)	(total weight)

- The lowest quiz score among quizzes 2–10 will be dropped when computing the average quiz score. In addition, the score of quiz 1 will also be dropped if doing so improves the average quiz score. (This ensures that the first quiz cannot hurt your score but only help it.)

- At the end of the quarter your final numerical score (computed on a scale of 0-100 as an average of the different grade components as described above) will be translated into a final letter grade according to a curve whose precise nature I will decide upon at that time to ensure a reasonable grade distribution. However, you can be assured that a final numerical score of ...

90 or higher	guarantees an A- or better letter grade;
75 or higher	guarantees a B- or better letter grade;
60 or higher	guarantees a C- or better letter grade;
50 or higher	guarantees a D- or better letter grade.

- Note: **makeup exams or quizzes will not be offered.** Missing the final exam will result in an automatic final course grade of F. If you miss a midterm due to a documented illness or similar emergency you must let me know as soon as possible. At my discretion I will make an effort to take that into account in a way that will avoid hurting your grade, to the extent possible and within reason.

- You are expected to follow the UC Davis Code of Academic Conduct, which can be found here: http://sja.ucdavis.edu/cac.html. If you are not familiar with it, take a few minutes to read about your responsibilities (and mine!). Violations will be referred to Student Judicial Affairs.

9. **Exam dates**

   - The first mid-term exam will be held on Wednesday, January 29 (at the usual lecture time and place, 4:10-5:00 in Giedt 1001; please come on time!).

   - The second mid-term exam will be held on Friday, February 21 (at the usual lecture time and place, 4:10-5:00 in Giedt 1001; please come on time!).

   - The final exam will be held in **Chemistry 179** (*not* in Giedt 1001) on Saturday, March 22 at 6-8 PM. (Students taking 21A concurrently with 21B or 21C — see item 16 below.)

10. **Exams and quizzes rules**

    - Exams and quizzes are closed-book (no books or other prepared written material may be used).

    - Use of calculators *only without graphing capabilities* is permitted. For quizzes this includes the use of a phone with a calculator app provided the app does not have graphing capability and no other phone functions are used during the quiz. In exams the use of phones or any device (such as a Kindle or iPod Touch) with texting or wi-fi capability is forbidden; in other words, only a "traditional" calculator may be used.

11. **Homework.** Doing work at home is an integral part of the class and is essential for a successful learning outcome. Suggested homework problems from the book will be assigned via SmartSite for each lecture, but will not be collected or graded. You are encouraged to discuss them with your friends, the T.A.s and the instructor during office hours, and to compare your solutions to the problem solutions at the end of the book.

12. **Online class resources**

    - All online resources for the class will be managed via the UC Davis SmartSite web portal (link: `https://smartsite.ucdavis.edu`).

    - If you do not see the MAT21A SmartSite on your SmartSite login page, look for an option to add a class SmartSite or contact your T.A. You should be able to set up a permanent link to the MAT21A class SmartSite from your SmartSite workspace.

    - The following link should also take you directly to the MAT21A class SmartSite: `https://smartsite.ucdavis.edu/portal/site/awesomecalculus`

    - Please make sure you familiarize yourself with the SmartSite as soon as possible, as it will be the main way for me and the T.A.s to communicate important information with the class outside of lecture time.

    - The class SmartSite will be used for the following features and activities:

- **Gradebook.** You will be able to view your quiz and exam grades as they accumulate and the final course grade at the end of the quarter.
- **Resources.** I will post homework assignments, practice exams, exam solutions, etc.
- **Announcements.** I will post important announcements and also email them to the class mailing list so you should receive them by email if you have your correct email set up via your SmartSite profile.
- **Chat Room**, **Blogs**, **Forums** and **Wiki**. Some social features which you can use if you like for effective collaboration with your friends. If you do, please stick to class-related content :-). I will probably not use these features myself.
- **Pictures.** If you add your photo to your SmartSite profile I will be able to see it alongside your name on the class roster. I promise to spend time memorizing the names of all students who add their pictures so that I can give you the personal treatment you deserve as a UC Davis student. (Alternatively, you can come and introduce yourself in person and I will try to remember your name, but it will be more difficult without having the photos to go over later.)

13. **Students with disabilities.** If you believe you might require some special support or accomodation in the class due to a disability, please contact the UC Davis Student Disability Center (SDC; see this link: `http://sdc.ucdavis.edu`) who could evaluate your request. I would be happy to assist with any accomodation that SDC determines that you are entitled to.

14. **Drop date for the class.** According to the academic calendar, you can decide to drop MAT21A up until the the 20th day of instruction, which falls on February 3.

15. **Holiday dates.** This quarter has two holidays during which MAT21A will not meet: Martin Luther King Day (Monday, January 20) and Presidents' Day (Monday, February 17).

16. **Students taking 21A concurrently with 21B or 21C.** Since the final exam date and time is the same for 21ABC classes, the math department is making arrangements for students taking 21A concurrently with 21B or 21C to take both final exams for those classes back to back on the day of the exam, Saturday March 22; the first exam will be taken at 4-6 PM and the second exam will be at 6-8 PM (I don't care if you take the 21A exam first and the other one second, or the other way around). Both exams will be given at **Wellman 1** rather than at the main room where the rest of the class will be taking the final.

Changes from document version 9. Updated the details regarding the time and location of the final exam (section 9), and the final exam arrangements for students taking 21A concurrently with 21B or 21C (section 16).

Changes from document version 8. Updated the grading policy to reflect the distribution of grades from the first and second midterms.

Changes from document version 7. Update to Paige's calculus room hours and Zi's office hours.

Changes from document version 6. Added clarification to grading policy (item 8) regarding makeup exams.

Changes from document version 5. Added a small update to the grading policy related to the final computation of the average quiz score; added rules for exams and quizzes (item 10).

Changes from document version 4. Added details about final exam arrangements for students taking 21A concurrently with 21B or 21C.

Changes from document version 3. Corrected the date and time of the final exam.

Changes from document version 2. Added information about the newly opened section A03 and the new T.A. Zi Peng.

Changes from document version 1. Updated office hours and calculus room hours for Jamie and Paige; added information about Sherry's calculus room tutoring.