Mathematics 103 — Calculus II — Spring 2001 — Bill Casselman's section

How to find me

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Email is by far the best way to communicate with me. I normally read it about 7 or 8 times a day, in the evenings as well as during working hours. If you want to see me, you can nearly always make an appointment at one day's notice through email.

Text. There is no required text. For your own use, you might want to purchase the book

Single Variable Calculus, by Edwards & Penney

but this is entirely optional. In practice, few have found it useful. The main source of information for this course will be the notes available on the Internet at

http://ugrad.math.ubc.ca/coursedoc/math103/

as well as notes handed out in class from time to time.

Labs. Once every two weeks you are required to attend a session in one of the Mathematics Department computer laboratories, where you will do work to be handed in electronically. These require no experience with computers, and should be completely self-contained. More will be said about these later on.

The labs start in the second week. You may normally attend any lab hour with enough room in it, but you should make every effort to attend your first scheduled lab in order to receive account information.

Equipment. You will need a scientific calculator, one that calculates powers and trigonometric functions. You are expected to bring one to every examination.

Grading.

Two mid-term examinations as well as quizzes	roughly 30%
Final examination	50%
Homework	10%
Labs	10%

The first mid-term examination will be Wednesday, January 31; the second Wednesday, March 7.

It is extremely important that you do home work intelligently. In order to encourage this:
- On the day when homeworks are due, there will often be a 5 minute quiz with a few questions on it very similar to ones in the home work set. You can work out for yourself some of the logical consequences of this policy. The quizzes will each count about 0.2% of the final grade.
- *No* homeworks will be accepted late. To allow for unavoidable error, only a selection of the home works you did best will be chosen for the final grade.
- In order to pass the course you **must** get a minimum of 44% on the final examination.
- In circumstances where your homework grades are significantly higher than your exam grades, the homework grades will be discounted.

General comments. This course is specifically intended for students interested in life sciences. What this means in practice is that we will frequently, but not necessarily always, choose our principal examples from biology and chemistry. Calculus is notorious for difficulty and boring material, but we will do our best to see that you do not suffer from either. Our view is that mathematics is an integral part of science, and the qualities you need to do well in this course ought to be exactly what you need to do well in other science courses: (•) a modest amount of curiousity, (•) some basic logical skills, (•) a fair share of common sense, and (•) a reasonable willingness to work.

If you find yourself trouble in this course, your first option should be to let your instructor know that you are having difficulty.