

Math 221 EL1 MW 12 Room 100 Gregory Hall
Class Organization for Main Lecture, Fall 2009

Instructor: Prof. Bruce Reznick, 327 Altgeld Hall, 333-4284, reznickmath.uiuc.edu. You will also attend a recitation section which meets twice a week and will have its own organizational sheet. For most purposes, office hours should be arranged with your own TA. The TAs are Ben Reiniger (ED4, ED9), Joe Waranyuwat (ED3, ED 6) and Qianyi Zhao (ED2, ED7).

I will hold regular office hours on Wednesdays, from 4:30 to 6:00 in Room 241 Altgeld Hall. Please do not drop by my office without an appointment! (I have quite a few professional responsibilities besides this course.) You are encouraged to ask me questions immediately before, after and during class. I'm terrible with names; don't take it personally.

Class attendance is expected, but will not be recorded. You are responsible for the material covered during each class. This course has a webpage—

<http://www.math.uiuc.edu/~reznick/classes/math221F09.html>.

which will contain links to everything discussed in lecture (except for the jokes), additional worked examples and supplemental material.

The Departmental policy is that students are not allowed to take Math 221 unless they have scored at least 70 on the ALEKS exam by the end of the fifth day of class. Please see

<http://www.math.illinois.edu/ALEKS/>

The ALEKS policy is beyond my control. Since one of the main goals of calculus is the reduction of complicated mathematical problems to algebra problems, you have to be able to do algebra problems.

Text, Syllabus and Philosophy: The text is *Calculus: Early Transcendental Functions, 6th edition*, by James Stewart, Thomson Brooks/Cole. We will cover all of Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8, except for sections 3.11, 4.6, 8.4 and 8.5. You will be given reading assignments in advance of each class period. It is much more useful to read the sections from beginning to end than it is to look backwards for help on particular problems in a piecemeal way. You should always at least glance through a section before the corresponding lecture.

Math 221 is first-semester calculus for students who have already seen some calculus in high school. There is a reason that calculus is a prerequisite for so many different majors across this university. Any discipline which uses mathematical models to help understand the world will need calculus to understand the models.

Education is not a zero-sum game when done correctly. I do not consider you my adversaries, and hope the feeling is mutual. Become an active participant in this course. Always remember that knowledge cannot be given – it must be taken.

If you find yourself falling behind, please take steps to address the situation as soon as possible. Many undergraduates who feel they are over-matched in the first week of a math course are, in fact, not giving themselves enough credit and will succeed. Many who feel a course is pretty easy, and don't work very hard, find out later that they are seriously mistaken. This often happens if the early material seems familiar.

Millions of people have learned calculus over the years and I personally expect that most (if not all) of you will be able to join them. My TA's and I want to do whatever it reasonably takes for you to succeed. However, we're not willing to redefine success.

Homework and Quiz Policy: These days, students can google for textbook solutions and ask questions of very intelligent search engines such as WolframAlpha. For this reason, I am not comfortable with having homework count as a portion of the course grade. Nevertheless, you will have regular homework assignments which will be announced in class and on the web page. These will be from the odd problems in the book, whose solutions can be found in the solutions manual. You are invited to submit work to your TAs if you are not satisfied that you understand the solutions, and you are invited to submit other worked problems as well. The TAs will correct your work, but will not grade it. **Collaboration in studying and working the homework is strongly encouraged! Collaboration without comprehension is a waste of time.**

There will be weekly quizzes, given in the recitation sections, and taken from the assigned homework with minor numerical modifications. These will be written by me, with a common grading key.

Exam Policy: There will be three Hour Exams, on the following dates, in our regular lecture classroom: Wednesday September 23, Monday October 26, Wednesday December 2. These dates are not negotiable; it is impossible to find times that would be convenient for everyone. You will need serious (outside) documentation in order to qualify for a makeup. All exams will be closed-book and closed-note and non-collaborative. I will never bite your head off in class for asking a question. I **will** bite your head off for cheating.

The Final Exam is comprehensive, and somewhat harder than the hour exams. The Final **must** be held at the scheduled time, which is 7:00-10:00 PM, Tuesday, December 15. The only way to schedule an alternate time is if you have three finals in a 24-hour period, and Math 221 has the largest enrollment of the three courses. Please determine this as soon as possible, so alternate arrangements can be made.

Grading Policy: Keep in mind that I am grading your work; I am not grading you as a human being. Each Hour Exam counts 20%, the Final Exam counts 40% and the Quiz Average counts 10%. This adds up to 110%. The score with the lowest percentage will be weighted 10% less. (A missed exam **cannot** be dropped from the computation of the grade.)

All grades are numerical, with the following exception: if you get at least 97% on the final, you will get at least an A-. The highest possible grade cutoffs are: A/B – 90%, B/C – 80%, C/D – 70%, D/F – 60%. I will try to keep you posted on any curving as the semester progresses. If the TAs and I teach really well and you learn really well and lots of people get above 90%, then lots of people will get A's.