

MTHU1251: Calculus and Differential Equations for the Biological Sciences

Time and Place: Ryder Hall 155 on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 9:05 a.m.

Instructor Info: Jason Ribeiro <ribeiro.j@neu.edu> 542 NI

Office hours: Wednesday and Thursday 9:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

If you want to see me, but cannot do so during my office hours, then please e-mail me to set up a convenient time. Also, please take advantage of the office hours of the other instructors in the course when they are more convenient.

Class material: We will be using Calculus & its Applications (11th Edition) by Goldstein et al. as our textbook. A “sin” calculator (that is one with a button marked “sin”) is required. A graphing calculator is useful but not required.

Course Content: MTH U 1251 is the first semester of the two semester Calculus, Differential Equations and Linear Algebra Sequence for Biology Majors. The course will cover the first four or five chapters of the text roughly (and I do mean roughly) as a (re)introduction to Differential Calculus, in order to get quickly into Differential Equations commonly used by biologists, which form the main body of the course. This is a totally innovative Mathematics for Biologists course, which explains the use of quotes around the word text. There just is no book yet doing what we want to do at the level we need. Goldstein et al is mainly there as a security blanket.

Prerequisites: YOU MUST KNOW HIGH SCHOOL ALGEBRA COLD! If you are weak in this area you'll be better off in MTH U1120. If you have had no calculus at all and feel unsure about your math skills you you'll be better off in MTH U1241.

Exams and quizzes: There will be no make-ups. For University excused absences (check your handbook) the missed quiz will not count against you. In that case you should notify me as soon as possible that you will be missing the quiz.

Grading: Quizzes about 50 %, Final about 50 %, and homework etc. about 10 %.

To talk to someone else:

Course co-ordinator: Prof. Blank <blankuc@gmail.com>

Academic Honesty: It is fine to work together doing homework, provided such assistance is acknowledged specifically in any work passed in, and that you understand what you pass in. Collaboration on quizzes and exams is not allowed, unless I make a specific exemption for a quiz, announced in advance. See:

<http://www.northeastern.edu/osccr/academichonesty.html>

Note: Instructor reserves the right to make any necessary changes to this syllabus.