

# MTH U131 (Calculus for Business and Economics) Spring 2008

Instructor: Dr. S. Wu

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 3 – 4pm, and other time by appointment

## Materials:

*Calculus Concepts (Brief Third Edition): An Informal Approach to the Mathematics of Change* by LaTorre, Kenelly, Fetta, Harris, Carpenter, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 2005.

The TI-83 (TI-83 Plus) or TI-84 (TI-84 Plus) calculator is required. No other calculator may be used on tests or the project without the explicit permission from me.

A class packet (for Spring 2008) must also be purchased from NU Reprographics (x2766).

Please bring your textbook, packet and calculator to each class.

**Eduspace Course Code: SSWUM-B5572E8DBCDCD1**

## Course Content:

This course introduces students to the use of derivatives and integrals in solving problems in business and economics, e.g., maximizing profit, calculating average investment income, future value of an income stream, and consumers' surplus. (A more detailed syllabus is given below.) **A project involving optimization is also required.** This project is described in the class packet. The graphing calculator is **used extensively** and prior familiarity with graphing calculators is helpful. Prerequisites: MTH U130 or the equivalent.

## Assignments:

A list of homework exercises from the textbook and class packet is attached. (This list is subject to revision.). Homework exercises should be done by the next class after they are assigned. Homework exercises from the textbook will not be collected. However, you are responsible for knowing the solutions of **all** homework exercises. There is also a set of web homework exercises posted on the eduspace web site for this section. The entire set of web homework exercises will count as **one** quiz. All the web exercises will be due at the end of the semester, but I suggest that you complete them as they become available. The questions on exams and quizzes will be based on homework exercises from the textbook, packet and the web, **quiz and test review exercises in the packet** and the material in my lectures.

## Attendance:

It is essential that you attend class regularly. The easiest way for you to learn the material and to know what material has been covered is to come to class each day. You are responsible for finding out what materials have been covered or what announcements (including the changes in the assigned exercises and the changes in the dates of quizzes or exams) have been made on days

that they miss class.

### **Exams:**

There will be 8-9 quizzes (20-30 minutes each), 1 hour test (the midterm), and a final exam. (Only the best 7 quiz grades **including** the web homework grade will be counted.) The final exam will count 40% of your course grade. **All students without legitimate conflicts approved by the instructor will take the final exam at the scheduled time.** The final exam is cumulative and is common for all sections of MTH U131. **Do not make travel plans that conflict with the final exam.**

### **Grading:**

Your final grade will be determined by the following quantities:

quiz grades (30%); midterm grade (15%); project grade (15%); and final exam score (40%). The approximate cut-offs for letter grades are as follows: D- (60), C-(70), B-(80) and A-(90).

The last day to drop a course without receiving a 'W' grade is 1/25. The last date to drop a course with a 'W' is 3/28. As a matter of Math Department policy: The **I grade** (incomplete) will be given only rarely. It is intended to cover real emergency situations in which a student who is doing reasonably well (C- or better) is unable, *due to circumstances beyond the student's control*, to complete all course requirements (e.g., is unable to take the final exam due to hospitalization). An **I** may not be used to rescue a failing grade, or to postpone the final.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Cheating will not be tolerated. All incidents of cheating will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The University's cheating policy and related disciplinary actions are detailed in the Student Handbook.

### **Help:**

You may come during my office hours for extra help. If you cannot make it during my office hours, you may make appointments with me for other time or take advantage of the office hours of other instructors of this course.

### **Tutoring:**

There is a free math tutoring center located in the math department on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Nightingale Hall (540B NI). Hours of operation for the Spring will be announced. All tutoring is done on a first come first served basis. Students must come in person to schedule appointments. No appointments can be made by phone.

### **Notes:**

If you have any concern/problems about the course that cannot be resolved by discussing with me, then you may see the course coordinator Prof. D. King, 447 LA, x5679, e-mail: [d.king@neu.edu](mailto:d.king@neu.edu).