1 Professor and contact information

Professor: David Ross
Office: Physical Sciences Building (PSB) 319
Phone: 956-4673 (but I'm rarely around to answer this, and the voicemail is flaky - email is much better)
Email: ross@math.hawaii.edu
Course Website: www.math.hawaii.edu/~ross243.htm
Professor Website: www.math.hawaii.edu/~ross
Office Hours:
   Walk-in: MWF 10:30-11:20
   Other times by prior appointment.

This document and the web site together comprise the the 'manual' for the course. Be sure to read the manual before asking policy questions during the semester! Especially questions about grading policy...

2 General

Lecture: MWF, 11:30-12:20, in Keller 303. Attendance is mandatory (see below).
Web: You should check the website regularly for announcements, assignments, and (especially) handouts.

3 Grades, Policies, Etc.

Text: University Calculus (Alternate Edition) by Hass, Weir, Thomas. We will cover most of chapters 11-13 in the text, as well as some of Chapters 9 and 10 and a bit from the appendices. There are a few topics which I like to do differently than the text does; you are responsible for doing these things my way.

Mid-term exams: There will be 3 of these. You will be not allowed to use a calculator on quizzes (nor should you need them). I will permit a crib sheet (one side of one 8 x 11 sheet of paper) for the exams (but not for quizzes).

Final exam: Cumulative, worth roughly twice a midterm (see below).
Exam Schedule: (All in class except Final Exam)

Midterm 1: Friday, Feb 5
Midterm 2: Friday, March 11
Midterm 3: Friday, April 16
Final Exam: Monday, May 9 12-2

Notice that the date for the Final Exam is set in stone; please do not schedule a family holiday at this time.

Homework: Assigned frequently and in great quantity, but HOMEWORK IS NOT TO BE HANDED IN. Homework assignments will posted on the website.

Quizzes: I will give regular quizzes based on the homework. I might occasionally give ‘pop’ quizzes to encourage attendance.

Other: We might do other activities in lecture and/or discussion section that will be graded according to rubrics to be discussed, for example as extra credit.

The quiz grade will be will be worth approximately 1/2 of a midterm exam.

+/-: No plus/minus grades will be given.

Grades: Scores will be amalgamated at the end of the semester, and your final class grade based on the total. The lowest midterm or the quiz score or half the final exam will be dropped, whichever one helps your grade the most. The scores are added together to get a first approximation of the grade. A final grade is assigned based on this approximation, but the grade might be pushed up or down based on score trends, preponderance of evidence, attendance, etc., or the special conditions from the next paragraph.

Special conditions: (a) A student cannot pass by passing just one midterm (or the quiz grade). For example, if a student receives an F on the final and 2 midterms, but a C or D on one midterm, and the numerical average turns out to be a D, the student will still receive an F. (b) A student will not receive more than one letter grade lower than the Final Exam letter grade, unless the Final was borderline and the other scores were appreciably worse. For example, a student with a middle B on the Final Exam will not earn worse than a C for the semester. However, a student with a borderline B/C on the final, and midterms so low as to drag the cumulative average down to a D, will earn the D for the semester.

Partial credit: Any solution for any problem on any quiz or exam which is not 100% correct, with every step in the solution process clearly spelled out, will be worth zero points. However, I will often give some fraction of the credit (sometimes as high as 100%) for a partial or slightly incorrect solution, entirely out of the goodness of my heart. Please see the section below on cheating for a further discussion.

Make-up work: MAKE-UP MID-TERM EXAMS OR QUIZZES WILL NOT BE GIVEN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. If you miss an exam, that is the exam that gets dropped in the grade computation. If you have an excused absence, then your final exam grade will be substituted for the missing exam. A make-up final will only be given if UH policy requires me to give one, and will never be given on a date earlier than the established, announced exam date.

Cheating: Cheating will not be tolerated in this class. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that (s)he does not copy from another student, or let another student copy from him or her. If I have strong reason to suspect that some infraction has incurred, I will at the very least adhere strictly to my policy (above) on the granting of partial credit, and not give any to the suspected student(s); under egregious circumstances I will fail the student.
Attendance: Mandatory. I might take roll at random times, or use quizzes for the same purpose, and a final attendance grade will be computed based on attendance. The attendance grade will be used to help determine what to do with borderline grades. You are responsible for everything we do in class, even on days you do not attend. In particular, the make-up policy for any surprise quizzes I decide to give is the same as for midterms (i.e., none permitted).

Cell phones etc: If you have a cell phone, the ringer must be turned off during the class. I find phones ringing while I teach very unnerving, and I will not be responsible for any unprofessional actions on my part if your phone rings during the class period. The same goes for other noise sources, including pagers, and alarms that go off before the period ends, especially the ones that play music which I do not like.

Respect: A few insensitive people can easily (and inadvertently) irritate many classmates at one time. Please try to respect the personal space of others – in particular, try to limit classroom discussion to that which is appropriate for the class.

Laptops: Please close all computing devices and do not use them in this classroom during lecture. Tablets or tablet PCs will be allowed for note-taking provided I can be sure they are not being used for anything else.