Basic Information

Office: McBryde 446  
Phone: (540) 231-6599  
E-mail: nrobbins@vt.edu (with “1225” in the subject)  
Office Hours: T: 12:00–1:00pm, Th: 12:30–2:00, F: 2:00–3:00pm & by appointment.  
Final Exam Time: Friday, Dec 11: 4:25pm–6:25pm.  
Course Website: http://www.math.vt.edu/courses/math1225/  

Course Materials: We will be using Calculus: Early Transcendentals, 8th edition, by Stewart. The Mathematics Department has recently changed textbooks, and this is a new edition for this year. Make sure you have the correct edition. We will be using the online homework system WebAssign, so you will need to at least buy the digital version of the text for this course.

Course Content: Functions, limits, continuity, graphs, rates of change, derivatives, optimization, integration.

Prerequisites: To enroll in 1225 you must have one of the following:  
1. A grade of B or better in Math 1014, 1015, 1016, 1025, or 1536.  
2. Two units of high school algebra, one unit of geometry, 1/2 unit each of trigonometry and precalculus, & placement by the Mathematics Department.  
3. A passing grade on the Calculus Readiness Exam.

Educational Objectives: Differential Calculus is the study of rates of change. Integral Calculus is the study of accumulation of change. You will learn how to find the rate of change of one quantity as a second quantity varies. You will also learn to answer questions about changing quantities.

Math Emporium & Tutoring: The staff in the tutoring lab at the Math Emporium will be able to assist you with your questions. Since this course is not an Emporium course, it is not appropriate to approach the floor staff in the general area with your questions about Math 1225. The tutoring lab is open 4:30pm to 9:30pm Sunday through Thursday. Also, you may hire a private tutor by sending an email to math_tutors-g@vt.edu indicating your specific needs.

Disabilities: If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.

Exam Scheduling Note:

There will be four common time exams and a common time final exam. The locations for the exams will be announced on the Math 1225 web page. Typically, they will not be the same as your lecture class. If it is to your benefit, your grade on the free response section of the final exam will replace your lowest test grade.

You must take tests on the specified date. If you have a verified conflict with the time scheduled for an exam, an alternative starting time for the exam on the same evening will be provided. Usually, makeup exams will not be given. If a student misses an exam for reasons that are serious, unavoidable, and beyond the student’s control, the situation will be handled on an individual basis. When possible, the student should notify the instructor before missing the work.

The final exam is a required class meeting that will not be rescheduled for discretionary reasons, including conflicts with work schedules, conflicts with classes and exams at other colleges, and travel plans.

Midterm exams are on Wednesdays, September 16, October 14, November 4, and December 2, each from 7–8pm. The final exam is scheduled for Friday, December 11, 4:25–6:25pm.

Communication

Notices and updates about this class will be sent to your official Virginia Tech email account. You are responsible for checking this account daily.
Honor System

All assignments, tests, and quizzes submitted will be considered graded work and must be completed on an individual basis. Homework may be discussed with other students as well as with the instructor. However, in writing up an assignment to be handed in, each student works alone (without other students or other students papers) and certifies that what is written accurately represents the students own understanding of the material expressed in the students own words. In working, or in preparing to work, homework problems, students may not consult partial or complete solutions of the problems that have been prepared by anyone else. The prohibited solutions include, but are not limited to, solutions by current or former teachers or students at VT or elsewhere, whether these solutions are posted on the web or available from other sources. The honor code applies to all graded work in this course. If you have any questions about how the honor code applies to a particular situation, it is your responsibility to ask.

Graded Materials

Mid-Term Exams (48%): Midterm exams are on Wednesdays, September 16, October 14, November 4, and December 2, each from 7–8pm. Notify me as soon as possible if you have a schedule conflict with these times. More information about the mid-term exams is given under “Exam Scheduling Note.”

Final Exam (20%): There will be a final, two hour, cumulative exam. It is half free response and half multiple choice. It is on December 11, 4:25pm–6:25pm. More information about the final exam is given under “Exam Scheduling Note.” If it is to your benefit, your grade on the free response section of the final exam will replace your lowest mid-term test grade.

WebAssign Quizzes (12%): There will be twice a week online quizzes. You will have two attempts at each quiz, and the higher of your two attempts at each numbered question will be used. I will drop your lowest four quiz grades.

Homework (15%): I will assign homework on every day’s material and collect it once a week. The list of topics is available from the syllabus on the course website. I will only grade selected problems, and which problems I will grade will not be made available until the assignment is returned. You can get help from any appropriate source, but you must cite it. I encourage you to seek help from classmates. However, the final work must be your own. I will only accept homework that is stapled together, neatly written or typed, with your name on every page. I will accept one late assignment, and this must be turned in at the start of the following class. Please save this late option for an emergency. I will drop your lowest homework grade. While calculators may be used on homework, I discourage relying on them since they are not permitted on exams.

Mathematics is about communication, not just numbers. Your homework will be graded for clarity and thoroughness, not simply correctness. In fact, no credit should be expected if no work is shown.

Class Participation and Preparation (∞%): Participation and preparation in Math 1225 is instrumental to success. I expect you to participate by reading the material before class, paying attention, asking and answering questions, as well as reviewing after class.

Attendance (0%): In accordance with Math Department policy, I will be keeping attendance in Math 1225. I will forward these records to the department at the end of the semester. While it will not directly affect your grade, I have found that students who do not attend Calculus find it much harder to pass or do well at the end of the semester.

Self-Evaluations (5%): You will fill out self-evaluations six times a semester, at the start of the semester and around each exam. You will get points for preparation, i.e. reading the text and working before the class session, as well as for in class participation. We will discuss these more when they happen.

Grading Scale

Final course grades will be assigned as follows: 90% guarantees at least an A-, 80% guarantees at least a B-, 70% guarantees at least a C-, and 60% guarantees at least a D-.

Grading Appeals

If you believe that an error has been made in grading an assignment or test, please re-examine the problem as well as the solution and contact me the next day. Any concern should be brought to my attention within one week of the graded work being returned.