

Math 3214, CRN 14002; Spring, 2009

Course Description and Grading Policy

Instructor: David L. Russell

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Web Site: <http://www.math.vt.edu/people/russell>

Office: 418 McBryde Hall

Class Meets: TR, 2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m., Rm. 307 McBryde Hall

Class Period Usage, Instructor Availability The instructor will normally lecture for one hour or and reserve some time at the end of each class period for individual questions and other non-lecture activities. He will be available in his McBryde office Wednesday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; other times by appointment.

Text; Notes *Vector Calculus*, J. Marsden and A. Tromba, W. H. Freeman, Fifth Edition, ISBN-13: 978-0716749929. The instructor's classroom notes, which will be posted regularly on this web site, provide supplementary course materials and have equal standing with the text in defining course content.

Suggested Exercises; Notebook Sets of suggested exercises from the text will be posted regularly. In most cases answers will be available in the text; otherwise they will be posted separately. These will not be individually graded. However, each student is to maintain a notebook, containing worked exercises and other course materials. The instructor may request to inspect these materials as part of his assessment of student progress in the course, particularly if special considerations of any kind are requested by the student.

Basis for Grading The final grade will be based on the student's total point score from approximately 600 points available. These points will be allocated according to the following tentative schedule:

Exams 1, 2: 100 pts. each; 200 pts. total;
Weekly Quizzes (8): 25 pts. each; 200 pts. total;
Final Exam: 200 pts.

All three exams will consist of two parts: one part to be done closed book in the classroom and one part to be done open book at home and turned in at a specified time.

Grading Schedule The following percentages of total point scores will be *sufficient* for the grade indicated. A: 91% to 100%; B: 81% to 90%; C: 71% to 80%; D: 61% to 70%. No passing grade will be assigned for an overall point total less than 50% (i.e., 300 points). The instructor reserves the right to assign a higher grade than indicated by this schedule if he deems it warranted. A curving process will be applied to the final point distribution for eligible students. In the past this process has normally resulted in grades somewhat better than indicated by the above schedule. To be eligible for this curving process, all exams and at least seven of the eight quizzes must have been taken in a timely manner.