

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB COURSE INFORMATION MR. TUPAJ

General Information

Advanced Placement Calculus is a *college*-level mathematics course. This course will emphasize a multirepresentational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed numerically, analytically, and graphically. Students are also expected to communicate their ideas verbally and in writing using appropriate mathematical reasoning.

It is expected that students will be taking the AP Calculus (AB) exam in May. This course is very fast-paced and intense. It is understood that by signing up to take this class, you are making a sincere commitment of time and effort to understand and apply concepts. This commitment should be demonstrated throughout the entire school year. **This commitment is demonstrated through participating, paying attention, asking questions, and consistently doing homework.** This commitment is also demonstrated by your **attendance**, which is **MANDATORY**. Absences during a semester will adversely affect a student's grade.

Your goal for this course should be to *learn* and *understand* calculus and be able to apply it to different situations. Be prepared to work harder than you have been used to in the past. If you want to earn a good grade, then be prepared to commit to hours of work outside of class every week.

Homework

Selected problems at the end of each section will be assigned for homework. Students are expected to work these problems by the next class meeting. Additional Problem Sets will also be assigned. Problem Sets will consist of both computational and conceptual questions. It is to your benefit to keep up with all of the work assigned.

Graphing Calculators

The **TI 83**, **TI 83 Plus**, **TI-NSPIRE** and **TI 84** are the preferred models for this course and will be the models used by the instructor. It is required that you have your own graphing calculator as it will be used on tests and on the AP Exam.

Whatever graphing calculator you decide to use be sure it has built-in capability to:

- 1) Plot the graph of a function within an arbitrary viewing window,
- 2) Find the zeros of functions (solve equations numerically),
- 3) Numerically calculate the derivative of a function, and
- 4) Numerically calculate the value of a definite integral.

Tests and Quizzes

Most tests during the entire school year will be cumulative. This means that there will always be some “older” material on every test. You will be taking some AP formatted tests as well—especially second semester. Be prepared to know every piece of material we have gone over for every test. Also, be prepared to apply what you know to problems on tests and quizzes. Quizzes can be given at any time and will generally not be announced. The quizzes will consist of problems that are similar to the homework problems and will be on material you’ve already had an opportunity to review.

Grading

Your grade will be calculated using a *weighted* grading system

Category	Weight
Tests	50%
Quizzes	20%
Homework	10%
Final	20%

Extra Help

I am available in my room (W218) on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons from 2:35 to 3:30 and Tuesday through Friday from 6:30 to 7:25 for extra help or make-ups.

Parent Contact

The most efficient way to contact me via e-mail at amtupaj@murrieta.k12.ca.us (note the middle initial). If you cannot e-mail me, you may call the school and leave a message on my voice mail (894-5750 ext 6668). I will return phone calls within 24 hours.