

Mr. Flint
Randolph High School
AP Calculus AB
2009-2010

Welcome to AP Calculus AB. I look forward to a great year of working with you all. I have outlined some important information regarding the course below. Please read this and ask if you have any questions.

Textbook: *Calculus: Graphical, Numerical, Algebraic* – Finney, Demana, Waits, Kennedy

Sakai: We will be using the Sakai Course Management System this year. Please have the permission form signed and returned as soon as possible. Sakai will allow me to post a number of resources online, including class notes, PowerPoint presentations, homework assignments and worked-out problem solutions. It will also provide a means for me and/or other students to answer your questions while you are doing your homework or preparing for tests.

Calculator: You must have a graphing calculator. We will use TI-Nspire technology in the classroom, and recommend it if you are purchasing a new calculator. However, any of the TI-83, 84, or 89 models will also suffice. The calculator will be used to explore mathematical ideas, verify the results of manual computation and to solve problems that are not conducive to pencil and paper calculations. Calculators should be brought to class each day for in-class activities. They may also be used for homework, but calculator answers are not acceptable in place of worked out solutions when those are required.

Homework: Homework is intended to support learning that takes place in class. Homework will be assigned, but not collected. Some amount of class time may be allocated to answering questions, but it is each student's responsibility to keep up with assignments and to seek out help when questions arise. I am available before school and at lunch time in Room D207 if you need assistance. Let me know in advance if you will be stopping by.

Problem Sets: In addition to homework, problem sets will be assigned for the specific purpose of reviewing important skills and concepts prior to tests. These assignments are to be completed and turned in. They will be graded. Problem sets will have extra weight in grading during the fourth marking period when quizzes and tests will not be administered.

Quizzes/Tests: Students should expect short quizzes (3-5 questions) frequently throughout a marking period. They are intended to assess how well students are assimilating newer material. Tests (10-20 questions) will be administered roughly every one to two weeks. Tests will be cumulative in nature.

Project: In the fourth marking period following the AP exam, students will concentrate on a project involving calculus in any field of interest (e.g. physics, biology, economics, etc.) which they choose. The project will take the place of quizzes and tests in the fourth marking period, but parts of the project will be completed and graded in the first three marking periods.

Participation: Active participation in class and on Sakai should be beneficial to each student’s learning, grades, and AP scores. It is highly encouraged at all times. Students will be notified in advance when a “participation” activity will be assessed and graded.

In-Class Activities: Class time will be used for a variety of purposes including presentation of new material, demonstration of problem solving techniques, etc., but will also be used for various “lab” exercises, both individual and cooperative in nature. These exercises will be collected and graded. Students will be notified beforehand when the activity is to be assessed and what its point value will be.

Grading: Marking Periods 1-3

Quizzes	20%
Tests	40%
Problem Sets	10%
Participation	10%
Project	10%
In-Class Activities	10%

Marking Period 4

Problem Sets	30%
Participation	10%
Project	50%
In-Class Activities	10%

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these items. Have a great year!