Course Syllabus (Math 152A, Winter 2003)

http://www.math.ohio-state.edu/~brooksban/152a

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Office Hours: You are free to attend any of the office hours of any of the TAs for 151A. My office hours and those of the TAs are posted on the course webpage.

Philosophy: If you are new to the ‘A’ sequence, please come and introduce yourself. I will give you the handout that I gave to everyone at the beginning of last quarter in which I sketched out the goals of the course and described some of the differences between this and a more traditional calculus course.

Reading Journal: New this quarter is a reading journal option (see the “Grading Scheme” part of this handout). Whether or not you choose this grading option, I want to encourage you again to read through the relevant section(s) before coming to lecture.

The Week Ahead: This a feature on the web page that I introduced last quarter and it seemed to be of use to those that used it. In it, I will

1. Summarise the topics that we will be looking at during the week ahead.
2. Give problems to get you thinking about the key concepts that we will encounter.
3. Remind you of important things coming up during the week (such as midterms and gateway exams).

I will update the feature every Friday.

Recitation: You know what to expect by now I hope, but you may have a different TA! I just want to encourage you to really make the most of recitation this quarter. In particular, try to embrace the group activities – you will find them of great value.

Homework: The complete list of suggested homework problems for the quarter is available from the course page. Your TA will inform you of which problems are due when.

Big Moan: I didn’t see enough of you in office hours last quarter! You don’t have to be in dire straights before you look for help. In fact, you don’t have to need help at all to attend office hours. Whatever your reason for coming, I will be delighted to see you.
Grading Scheme (Math 152A, Winter 2003)

Unlike last quarter, in 152A you will be asked to choose between one of two grading schemes which will then be used to determine your grade for the course. The first option will be roughly the same as the scheme we used in 151A last quarter. The second option involves you keeping a “reading journal” throughout the course.

OPTION#1:
- Recitation: $R$ (max = 40)
- 2 Midterms: $M_1, M_2$ (max = 40 each)
- Final: $F$ (max = 80)
- TOTAL: $T$ (max = 200)

Your course total $T$ will be calculated in two ways:

1. $T = R + M_1 + M_2 + F$
2. $T = R + \frac{1}{2}(M_1 + M_2) + \frac{3}{2}F$

The higher of the two totals will be divided by 2.0 to give you a score $S$ out of 100.

OPTION#2: Reading Journal.
- Journal: $J$ (max = 20)
- Recitation: $R$ (max = 40)
- 2 Midterms: $M_1, M_2$ (max = 40 each)
- Final: $F$ (max = 80)
- TOTAL: $T$ (max = 220)

Your course total will again be calculated in two ways:

1. $T = J + R + M_1 + M_2 + F$
2. $T = J + R + \frac{1}{2}(M_1 + M_2) + \frac{3}{2}F$

With option 2, the higher of the two total will be divided by 2.2 to give you a score $S$ again out of 100.
GATEWAY SCORE: Whichever option you choose, your score $S$ will then be adjusted with the bonus or penalty from the Gateway exam. This quarter, bonuses will be given for passing the Gateway at the 1st, 2nd or 3rd attempt as follows:

- Pass Gateway at the 1st attempt: +3
- Pass Gateway at the 2nd attempt: +2
- Pass Gateway at the 3rd attempt: +1
- Not passed after the 5th attempt: -10

GRADES: Your course score will range from a minimum of $-10$ to a maximum of 103. Grades will be determined based on a score out of 100. The grades will not be too far away from the usual $90\% = A$, $80\% = B$ scheme but, as was the case last quarter, I may make slight adjustments to compensate for difficult exams. In any case, I will post a grade breakdown for each midtern on the course web page.

Grade Components

$(J)$ The idea behind the reading journal is to get you to embrace the text book (more, perhaps, than you did last quarter). It is a challenging text and can be frustrating if you just dip into it every now and then. However, I truly believe that it is an excellent resource if used properly. By keeping a reading journal I expect that you will be better prepared for lectures and will achieve a deeper understanding of the key concepts.

If you choose the reading journal option, you will write a concise but complete summary of each of the 20 sections that we cover. You will be awarded a score simply of 0 or 1 for each section. For your first attempts, you may be awarded a “warning” score of $\frac{1}{2}$: this will be to let you know that subsequent submissions of that quality will be awarded a score of 0. The journals will be collected during recitation each Thursday starting in the second week. Hence you have until then to decide whether you want to use this option.

Your total $T$ is calculated in two ways to provide you with a safety blanket in case you should “fall” on an exam. If you take your journal entries seriously, there is absolutely no reason why you should not achieve the maximum score of 20 for $J$. You can therefore view your journal score as an extra buffer on exams: in a sense you will already have some points in the bag before you start.

$(R)$ Same as last quarter. Your TA will award you a score out of 40 for the quarter based on some or all of the following: performance on quizzes; performance on homework; class participation; and group work. Chris and Ari will give more detailed guides as to their expectations.

$(M)$ The sections of the text which will tested in each midterm are given in the course schedule. You can expect a similar format to last quarter.

$(F)$ The final will again be comprehensive and will be a 2 hour exam.

$(G)$ Yes, you can’t escape it! One word of warning: computational methods of integration are rather harder to master than their counterparts for derivatives, so please take your preparation for the gateway seriously. Don’t forget that your Gateway score is purely a bonus (or penalty) to your final course score; it is well worth making every effort to pass first time.
## Course Schedule (Math 152A, Winter 2003)

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**Finals**

- **Final** (7 : 30pm)

1 = Tested on Midterm 1.
2 = Tested on Midterm 2.
G = Tested on Gateway Exam.
Mi = ith Midterm Exam (i = 1, 2).
G\(_j\) = jth Gateway Exam (j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5).