Course policy

Please read the information below carefully before asking questions.

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Due to the large amount of emails I receive, I do not respond to questions that are already explained clearly in this document, in particular topics related to

- **Enrollment**
- **Make-up exam**
- **How to evaluate the score**
- **How to solve a homework problem**

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Enrollment
The enrollment is entirely done online. **I have no control of the enrollment process.**

If you have any question about enrollment, first check the website

https://math.berkeley.edu/courses/enrollment/enrollment-updates

For other enrollment questions, email

enrollment@math.berkeley.edu

For students in the concurrent enrollment program, you need to get the concurrent enrollment form from **Thomas Brown (Evans 965)** first, and then take the form for me to sign before / after the class, or during the office hour.

Prerequisites
1A-1B or equivalent. Note: calculus courses at most institutions either have no differential equations, or less than Berkeley's Math 1B. Transfer students who have taken such courses need to learn the relevant differential equations material (Stewart, Single Variable Calculus, Early Transcendentals, for

UC Berkeley, Chapters 9 and 17) **on their own**. **Please contact the GSI in your discussion session if you have concern for this.**

Grading policy, exam, homework, quiz.

Midterm 1 (20%) + Midterm 2 (20%) + Final (40%) + Homework (10%) + Quiz (10%)

Each midterm weighs 20 points, and the final weighs 40 points. However, if your final score is higher than one of your midterm scores after normalization, then the midterm with a lower score will be replaced by the final score after normalization, i.e. **at most one midterm can be replaced by the final.** For example, if you get 18 pts for Midterm 1, 10 pts for Midterm 2, and 32 pts for the Final, then your raw total pts from the exams will be 18+(32/2)+32=66. Note that the score of midterm 2 is replaced by the normalized final score.

You can miss AT MOST ONE midterm exam.

If you miss both midterm exams OR if you miss the final exam, you automatically FAIL the class. This is regardless of the performance for your other items for this course.

The general difficulty for the exam is Midterm 1 <= Midterm 2 <= Final. There is no point to "strategically" miss any exam.

Homework is assigned associated with each lecture and is due on a weekly basis during the discussion session **(every Tuesday)**. **No credit is given for homework turned in after the due date.** The lowest two scores for the homework will be dropped when counting towards the total score in the end.

Quizzes are given **every Thursday** during the discussion session. **No make-up quiz is available in any discussion session.** Each discussion session has its own quiz up to the choice of the GSI. The lowest two scores for the quizzes will be dropped when counting towards the total score in the end.

Grade curving

Homework and quiz scores will be curved among the registered attendants within each GSI session. **Hence if your GSI tends to give easier/more difficult quizzes, do not worry. Your expected score (in the probability sense) will be the same.** Midterm and final scores are NOT curved

separately. The curved homework and quiz scores within each discussion session, added to the adjusted scores of midterms and the raw final score will be your total raw score. The total raw score will be curved all-together including everyone in the class, with reference to the grade distribution of the same course in previous years. This will be the basis for your final letter score.

Make-up exam

There will be no make-up exam given **in any circumstance for anyone.**

DSP

If you meet the requirement from the Disabled Students Program, and require special accommodations of any kind, **please let the GSI in your discussion session know as soon as possible**. The GSI will then summarize the cases and get back to me. **All DSP requests must be made at least two weeks ahead of any midterm or final exam. After that the request may not be accommodated.**

I-grade

Grades of Incomplete will be granted only for direct medical or personal emergencies that cause you to miss the final, and only if your work up to that point **is of passing quality**.

Lecture notes

Lecture notes will be uploaded to bCourses **from time to time** during the semester. **I may not upload the notes periodically, and surely not immediately after the class (for obvious reasons)**. If you have questions related to materials of which the notes are not yet uploaded, check with other students' notes in class, and/or talk with the GSIs or me during the office hours. However, all lecture notes prior to any exam (midterm, final) will be available online before the exam.

Rules for all exams

Closed book, closed notes.

No calculators.

No cheatsheet.

DO NOT tear out any page or add any page during the exam. There will be scratch pages. This is crucial for the grading process with gradescope. Write your name on the top left corner of each page. If your answer appears in the scratch paper appended in the end, refer to your answer using the page number.

Gradescope related question

The two Midterms will be available on gradescope. After each midterm, a limited period will be available for submitting regrading requests.

The final exam is treated as “traditionally graded” exams on paper, i.e. the final will NOT be posted on gradescope. Any request for reviewing the final exam OR reviewing the breakdown of the raw score must be submitted during the following semester.

When you have a question in class:

Raise your voice and ask it loudly! I do not mind at all being interrupted!

When you have a question after class:

If you find a mistake in my lecture / homework assignment / note, **please let me know via office hour / email, and I will address it as soon as possible**.

Otherwise, if this is a question regarding how to solve a problem (esp. homework), I strongly believe that after trying your best, you can at least make a first step towards thinking about / solving the problem. I will always ask one question first:

What is your first step towards solving this problem?

Please note that the conversation will not continue without your answer to this question. So please be prepared.

More generally, please go through the following list when you have a question. This could allow you to learn more about the materials. It also improves everyone’s efficiency.

1) Can I try to figure it out by myself?

2) Can I find the answer easily on the web? (e.g. Great place for answers to common questions includes mathoverflow, wolfram, or simply google it)

3) Can I work with my peers to figure it out?

4) Might other people share the same question? If so, please post your question publicly on piazza.

5) If the question remains... Dear Mr. / Ms. GSI in my discussion session, what do you think?...

6) If the question remains... Come to my office hour: Lin, what do you think?...