

MA 26100 Fall 2026 Ground Rules

Purdue University West Lafayette (PWL) and Indianapolis (PIN) locations

General Information

Email Policy

Due to the large number of students in this class, for most questions (in particular for questions about deadlines, grading disputes, or technical issues) it is recommended that you contact your TA first. If the TA cannot answer your question, they will forward it to the lecture instructor.

Attendance

Lecture and recitations will meet at the assigned time and location indicated on your class schedule. Quizzes and exams must be completed in-person as scheduled, and you must attend recitation to complete your quizzes.

Required Materials

Students are required to have an access code for the Pearson MyLab Math platform. A physical textbook is NOT required. A digital version of the textbook is included in MyLabMath. For reference, the textbook is Calculus, Early Transcendentals, (Third Edition) by Briggs, Cochran, Gillett, Schulz. There is a two week grace period before you must purchase an access code. If you have taken more than one semester of calculus, the full access code (multi-semester) is good for all the Calculus courses (MA 16100, MA 16200, MA 16500, MA 16600, and MA 26100) since they use the same textbook.

Brightspace

The MWF lecture and the Tuesday recitation have independent course pages in Brightspace: <http://purdue.brightspace.com> Consult both pages for course information. MyLabMath and course grades should be accessed through your recitation Brightspace page.

Homework

There are 37 lessons associated with online MyLab Math assignments. Due dates and times are listed in the MyLab Math system, and on the course calendar

webpage. Assignments and due dates will not appear in the Brightspace calendar. Generally, homework is due Tuesday at 11:59pm and Thursday at 11:59pm. Contact your TA if you have unresolved concerns over how a homework problem was scored.

Though you must submit your own work, you are invited to discuss homework problems with your peers. This being said, there are many questionable resources (excessive calculator use, online solvers, AI, answer-sharing websites, over-reliance on collaboration with peers etc.) that you may be tempted to utilize when completing the homework; availing yourself of these shortcuts means you are not only missing the opportunity to internalize the problem-solving concepts, but also disregarding chances to self-assess your understanding and computational fluency. Poor homework habits will show up in poor quiz and exam results.

Accessing MyLab

To access MyLab, go to your recitation (REC) Brightspace page and follow the link appearing in the Access Pearson tab. From there you should click on “Open MyLab & Mastering” (and you may need to enable popups to access all of the necessary content). The purchase of an access code is required and it is recommended to buy your code directly from Pearson within the course link to ensure you have purchased the correct code. The code gives the students access to their online homework and the electronic version of their textbook. A physical copy of the textbook is not required. Students can select “Get temporary access without payment for 14 days” on the payment option page if they are waiting on financial aid or other means to purchase full, paid access to the MyLabMath course. However, students must purchase full, paid access before the end of the 14th day to stay in the course. Please note that this grace period is available to students only once.

Quizzes

There will be a timed quiz in every recitation class with a few exceptions. Quizzes typically cover content related to the homework that was due the previous week. Students who arrive noticeably late to recitation will not be permitted to sit for the quiz.

Policy on Late Homework and Missed Quizzes

Late homework will not be accepted. No make-up quizzes will be given. At the end of the semester, the 3 lowest homework scores and the 2 lowest quiz scores will be dropped to account for the fact that in a course this size, we cannot adjudicate every circumstance. (The assumption is that every student occasionally has an appointment, oversight, accident, illness, or emergency that causes them to miss class or a homework deadline, and these situations are covered by the universal “drop” policy.) Students who are forced to miss class for an extended period of time should contact the Office of the Dean of Students and the lecture instructor. Quizzes that are missed due to absences approved by the Office of the Dean of Students (grief, military, jury duty, university athletics, or medical) may be exempted from the overall total upon request to your TA.

Exam Information

This course will have two one-hour, multiple choice midterm evening exams and a two-hour final during final exam week.

Test	Date	Time	Location	Sections Covered
Midterm 1	Monday, October 5th	8pm	TBD	Lessons 1-16
Midterm 2	Wednesday, November 18th	8pm	TBD	Lessons 17-31
Final Exam	TBD	TBD	TBD	All course content

The following Exam Rules will be printed on each midterm and the final exam:

1. Students may not open the exam until instructed to do so.
2. Students must obey the orders and requests by all proctors, TAs, and instructors.
3. No student may leave in the first 20 min or in the last 10 min of the exam.
4. Books, notes, calculators, or any electronic devices are not allowed on the exam, and they should not even be in sight in the exam room. Students may not look at anybody else’s test, and may not communicate with anybody else except, if they have a question, with a TA or instructor.
5. After time is called, the students have to put down all writing instruments and remain in their seats, while the TAs will collect the scantrons and the exams.

6. Any violation of these rules and any act of academic dishonesty may result in severe penalties. Additionally, all violators will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students.

Students more than 20 minutes late will not be allowed to take the exam. They will have to contact their lecture instructor immediately for permission to take a make-up exam. Grade penalties are possible.

Missed Exam Policy

If there are any special circumstances that may affect your ability to successfully complete an exam (illness, family emergency, conflict with another class at Purdue, etc.), you should discuss the situation with your lecture instructor before taking the exam (if you are physically able to). Students in such circumstances may be permitted to take a make-up exam. This exam will be a different version from the in-person exam taken on the original date. Please note that make-up Exam dates and times are limited.

If you know in advance that you will require a make-up exam, please email your lecture instructor as soon as possible (and ideally at least one week before the exam). Outside of extraordinary circumstances (for example, hospitalization), requests for make-up exams made over 48 hours after the exam has taken place will be denied.

Unapproved Midterm Absences: If you miss the midterm for a reason such as remembering the time or date incorrectly, you must contact your lecture instructor immediately to request permission to take a make-up exam. Under these circumstances you may be subject to a 20% late penalty. That means, for an exam worth 100 points with a 20% late penalty, then 20% of your scored points will be subtracted from your score. For example, if you scored 86/100 on the exam, then your score will become $(86 \times 0.8) / 100 = 68.8 / 100$ after the penalty is applied. Requests for a make-up midterm due to an unapproved absence **must** be made within 48 hours of the original exam date. **Requests after that deadline will be denied.**

NOTE: Travel plans are not a sufficient excuse to take the final exam at a different time.

Department Course Webpage

<http://www.math.purdue.edu/MA261>

Registration Dates

According to the registrar's calendar (confirm with your advisor)

- Last day to drop the course without it being recorded: **September 4th**
- Last day to drop the course and receive a grade of W: **November 24th**

Transfers

If you transfer sections of MA 26100, it is your responsibility to notify the TA of the new section so that he or she can ensure that your MyLab Math scores are transferred. You should access MyLab Math through your new Brightspace page, so scores synchronize properly.

Calculators

Calculators are not allowed on exams or quizzes. It is important that you learn to do simple computations by hand.

Lecture Instructor Office Hours

“Office Hours” are the weekly times set aside by the lecture instructor to be available for students in this course to drop by and get help or just talk one-on-one. Your lecture instructor will announce an office hour schedule.

PWL TA Office Hours

<http://www.math.purdue.edu/academic/officehours> You may attend any of the scheduled hours in the Math Resource Room (WL). The purpose of the MRR is to foster student learning. The MRR is a space for students to work collaboratively and for instructors to answer questions over course material and go through problems similar to student homework problems. The instructors will not do your exact homework problems. Instead, they will go through a similar problem with you to give you another example to work through. This is more beneficial for you, since it better prepares you for quizzes and exams.

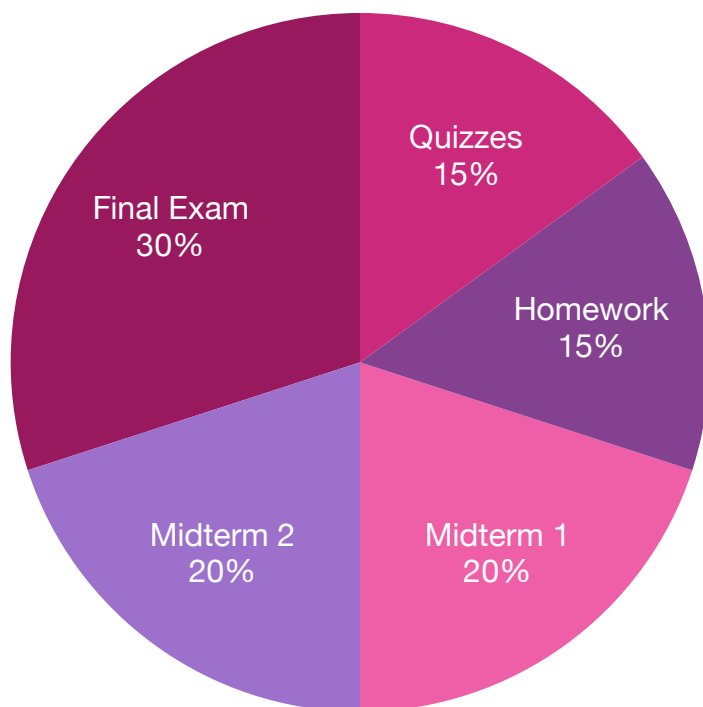
Course Content and Grading

Catalogue Course Objectives

1. Know the equations for lines, planes and quadric surfaces in three dimensional space, and understand how these equations relate to the geometry. 2. Understand the relationship between vector functions and parametrized motion; know how to calculate velocity, acceleration, arc length and curvature. 3. Know the meaning of partial derivatives and how to calculate them. Know the multivariable chain rule. 4. Know the meaning of the gradient, how to calculate it, and how to apply it to directional derivatives and maximum and minimum values. 5. Understand the meaning of double and triple integrals; know how to compute them and how to apply them. 6. Understand the meaning of vector fields and line integrals. Know Green's theorem and be able to apply it. 7. Understand the meaning of surface integrals and know how to calculate them. Know Stokes' theorem and be able to apply it.

Grading

Homework scores for each separate assignment appear in MyLab Math. Scores for quizzes, exams, overall homework, and the course total will be displayed in your recitation Brightspace page. Course grades will be determined from your overall score computed as follows:



Numerical Grade Breakdown

There are no preset cutoffs for student course grades. Instead, grade cutoffs will be assigned to student exam totals, and each TA will be allocated a certain quantity of letter grades to award that is equal to the number of those grades earned on the exam totals (sum of midterms and final exam results). Then each TA will then award his/her allocated letter grades to individual students within his/her sections by ranking according to each individual student's overall course total (which includes homework and quizzes). In practice, this results in a healthy balance of collaboration and competition with your classmates: you want everyone in your recitation to do very well on the exams (so your TA has high grades to hand out), but you want to out-perform everyone in your recitation on the quizzes (so you can move up the ranks). The purpose of this system is to minimize any irrelevant effects on student course grades that could result from the quiz variation that exists between different TAs. In other words, there should be no grade complaints about one TA being "harder" or "easier" than another TA, since your standing is considered relative to other students having the same TA. In fact, a "hard" TA just might better prepare you for the exams!

In addition, there are also guarantees for course letter grades: regardless of exam totals and TA rankings, individual course letter grades will certainly be at least as generous as the following cutoffs (using the student's course total):

Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
Cutoff	97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	60

Other Information

Advice to succeed

The following are a number of basic yet important tips to succeed in this course:

- Start the homework as soon as you are able. You will likely be familiar with some of the homework topics but struggle with others; beginning early will ensure that you can get the help you need as soon as possible.

- Go to office hours and/or the math resource room as often as you can. Talking through course content with someone who understands it well is an ideal way to work through any difficulties you're having.
- Set aside a minimum of 10 hours to study for the midterm exam and a minimum of 20 hours to study for the final exam.
- Make sure to talk about the course material (during recitation or office hours, or just with your peers in the class). With so many complicated concepts and definitions flying around, it is **very** difficult to learn mathematics if you don't talk it through with someone. Learning mathematics is a collaborative experience.

PWL Supplemental Instruction

There are Supplemental Instruction (SI) study sessions available for WL students. Attendance at these sessions is voluntary, but extremely beneficial for those who attend weekly. Times and locations for the study session can be found here: www.purdue.edu/si. Students who attend these interactive sessions will find themselves working with peers as they compare notes, demonstrate and discuss pertinent problems and concepts, and share study and test-taking strategies. Students are asked to arrive with their student ID card, lecture notes and questions to these informal, peer-led study sessions.

PWL Tutoring

- "Women in Science and Engineering Tutoring Program" offers free evening tutoring: www.purdue.edu/science/wisp/tutoring
- "COSINE" offers free evening tutoring for Math, Biology, and Chemistry in Shreve Hall's University Residences Support Center. www.purdue.edu/science/Current_Students/cosine
- Here is a list of math tutors for hire: www.math.purdue.edu/academic/tutor/

PIN Math Assistance Center

This course is supported by free drop-in tutoring at the Science and Mathematics Academic Resource and Tutoring (SMART) Center. The SMART Center is located in the lower level of the Engineering Technology Building (Room ET 003) and has tutors scheduled to assist you with the material in this course. Tutoring is in-person

and no appointment is needed. Available with limited hours during the second week of class and expanding to over 50 hours of operation beginning the third week of class, The SMART Center is typically open six days a week, Sunday through Friday, including most evenings. This is an excellent resource for additional study assistance and homework help. See www.purdue.edu/science/student-experience/smart-center.html for schedule details and availability of tutors for this class or email smartcenter@purdue.edu with other SMART Center questions.

Accessibility

Purdue University strives to make learning experiences accessible to all participants. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: drc@purdue.edu or by phone: 765-494-1247, as soon as possible. If the Disability Resource Center (DRC) has determined reasonable accommodations that you would like to utilize in this class, you must send your Course Accommodation Letter to both your TA and the professor. Instructions on sharing your Course Accommodation Letter can be found by visiting: <https://www.purdue.edu/drc/students/course-accommodation-letter.php>. Additionally, you are strongly encouraged to contact your TA as soon as possible to discuss implementation of your accommodations.

Commercial Note Taking in Classes

Notes taken in class are generally considered to be “derivative works” of the instructor’s presentations and materials, and they are thus subject to the instructor’s copyright in such presentations and materials. No individual is permitted to sell or otherwise barter notes, either to other students or to any commercial concern, for a course without the express written permission of the course instructor. See University Senate Document 03-9, April 19, 2004.

Common University Policies and Resources

Information about common policies and listings of university resources are all available in the Brightspace homepage.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that Purdue University holds. Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breaches of this value by either emailing integrity@purdue.edu or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information that is submitted provides the greatest opportunity for the university to investigate the concern.

Purdue prohibits “dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty.” [Part 5, Section III-B-2-a, University Regulations] Furthermore, the University Senate has stipulated that “the commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest.” [University Senate Document 72-18, December 15, 1972]. For more details about the Purdue Policy on academic dishonesty see <http://www.purdue.edu/odos/academic-integrity/>.

Course and Instructor Evaluations

During the last two weeks of the semester, you will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this course and your instructor(s) through online course evaluations. On Monday of the 14th week of classes, you will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online site. You will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. Your participation in this evaluation is an integral part of this course. Your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. We strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.

Other Issues

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor’s control. To get information about changes in this course please check Brightspace regularly.