GROUND RULES for MA 154X

- **CLASS PERIOD**
  Students are expected to attend every class meeting and to read the appropriate sections of the text before coming to class. Instructors may not have time to cover every topic in class.

- **HOMEWORK**
  The majority of homework will be graded using the department's online homework system, SAGE. You will receive additional information about this at the second class meeting. Also, see the instructions on the assignment sheet for additional information about homework.

- **QUIZZES AND EXAMS**
  The quizzes given during the semester will be prepared by your instructor. Three multiple choice <u>midterm exams</u> are scheduled **during your regular class meetings**. The three midterm exams and the final exam are prepared by the Mathematics Department.

  A one-line, scientific calculator is the only calculator allowed on quizzes and exams. Two-line, programmable, and graphing calculators are not allowed.

  The final exam is a 30-question multiple choice exam that is given during the sixteenth week of the semester. Students may get a copy of practice questions for the final exam online.

- **GRADES**
  Homework and quizzes are worth 100 points (50 points each), each evening exam is worth 100 points, and the final is worth 200 points, for a total of 600 possible points. At the end of the semester, each student's course grade is calculated using her total points. The course grades are calculated as follows: Letter grade cut-offs are determined for the four common exams combined. Then, your instructor determines the number of each letter grade his students earned based on their four exam scores. Next, your instructor lists all of his students' total points (out of the 600 total points available), in numerical order, highest first. If ten of his students receive an A according to the four-exam cut-offs, the first 10 students on the list of total points will automatically receive an A as their final grade in the course, and so on down the list for the other grades. Further, students within 7 points of a grade cut-off (based on the 600 total points) will automatically be raised to the higher grade. Students who are between 8 and 21 points of a grade cut-off are considered borderline cases. If the grade obtained on the final exam, or in the four-exam composite, is at least as good as the higher one in the borderline, the course grade will be raised to the higher grade with a minus. If not, the grade will stay the same with a plus. For example: If you are within 7 points of the cutoff for an A, you will receive an A. If you are between 8 and 21 points of the cutoff for an A, and you qualify to have your grade raised, you will receive an A-; however, if you do not qualify to have your grade raised, you will receive a B+. This process is repeated for the B, C and D cutoffs. Since there is no F+, students within the borderline of the D cutoff, that do not qualify to have their grade raised, will receive an F.

- **COURSE WEB PAGE**
  Some useful materials for the course are available online at: www.math.purdue.edu/MA154X

- **CHEATING**
  The Mathematics Department will not tolerate cheating of any sort. Grade penalties will always be imposed by the Department. All cheating cases will also be reported to the Dean of Students Office for disciplinary action (probation, suspension, or expulsion).