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 50 points each, each evening exam is worth 100 points, and the final is worth 200 points, for a total of 600 points. Student course grades are calculated as follows:
  1. Letter grade cut-offs are determined by the course coordinator for the four common exams (500 points possible)
  2. Your instructor determines the number of each letter grade his students earned based on their four exam scores.
  3. Your instructor then lists students in numerical order, from highest to lowest, using the 600 total points possible.
     a. If ten students receive an A, according to the four-exam cut-offs, the first 10 students, on the list of total points, receive an A as their course final grade, and so on down the list for the other grades. The score of the last student for each grade is the cut-off score for that grade.
     b. The grades of students within 4 points of a cut-off are raised to that grade.
     c. The grades of students between 5 and 12 points of a cut-off are raised to that grade with a minus.
     d. The grades of students between 13 and 21 points of a grade cut-off have a plus added to their grade.

For example: Students within 4 points of the cutoff for an A receive an A. Students between 5 and 12 points of the cutoff for an A, receive an A-. Students between 13 and 21 points of the cutoff for an A, receive a B+. Since there is no F+, students more than 12 points from the cutoff for a D receive an F.

- **COURSE WEB PAGE**
  Some useful materials for the course are available online at **www.math.purdue.edu/MA154X**. There is also materials available in Blackboard.

- **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).