

# MA 15300X Fall 2011 Ground Rules

- **CLASS PERIOD**

Students are expected to attend every class meeting and to read the appropriate sections of the text before coming to class. Instructor may not have time to cover every topic in class. There are supplemental videos and PowerPoint presentations provided on the MA 15300 webpage: [www.math.purdue.edu/MA15300](http://www.math.purdue.edu/MA15300)

- **HOMEWORK**

All homework assignments will be completed using WebAssign. All assignments are due 24 hours after the next class period. A 10% bonus is given for problems completed before the beginning of the next class period. Completing each homework assignment is certainly your best way to be prepared for quizzes and exams. **It is highly recommended that you complete all homework problems on paper and then enter solutions online.**

- **QUIZZES/EXAMS**

The quizzes given during the semester will be prepared by your instructor. Three multiple choice midterm exams will be scheduled for your class by your instructor during your regular class meetings. The three midterm exams and the final exam are prepared by the Mathematics Department.

**MAKE SURE YOU BRING YOUR ONE-LINE, SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR TO THE EXAMS.**

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.

To prepare for the midterm exams, students should review all of the material covered by their homework assignments, quizzes, and the announced review problems. Past exams (available online) are a source of additional review problems and can also give you a rough idea of the length and difficulty level of your own exam. **However, many students have the mistaken impression that just by reviewing some past exams they will have seen all that is expected of them from their own exams.** Past exams should absolutely not be used as a guide to the exact content and wording of the exams.

- **CALCULATORS**

A scientific calculator is required for this course. You may only use a one-line scientific calculator on quizzes and exams (the TI-30XA is strongly recommended). No substitutes, such as a graphing calculator, a cell phone, or PDA may be used during quizzes or exams. **WE WILL NOT ALLOW THE SHARING OF CALCULATORS AMONG STUDENTS.**

## • ACADEMIC ADJUSTMENTS

Students who have been certified by the Office of the Dean of Students-Adaptive Programs as eligible for **academic adjustments** should go to MATH 242 with a copy of their certification letter and request an Information Sheet for **this** semester that explains how to proceed this semester to get these adjustments made in Mathematics courses. It is not the same as last semester. **This should be done during the first week of classes or as soon as the student receives their letter.**

Only students who have been certified by the ODOS-Adaptive Programs and who have requested ODOS to send their certification letter to their instructor are eligible for academic adjustments. Students who are currently undergoing an evaluation process to determine whether they are eligible for academic adjustments, are encouraged to find out **now** what procedures they will have to follow when they are certified, by requesting the above mentioned Information Sheet from MATH 242.

Large print copies of the Information Sheet are available from MATH 242 upon request.

## • GRADES

In class work is worth 100 points, online homework is worth 50 points, each evening exam is worth 100 points, and the final is worth 200 points. At the end of the semester, each student's final grade is calculated using his/her *total points* (650 total points are available). The final grades are calculated as follows: Course wide letter grade cut-offs are determined for the four common exams combined (500 possible points). Then, your instructor determines the number of each letter grade his/her students as a group earned, based on the individual totals of the four exam scores. Next, he/she lists all of his students' total points (out of the 650 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 receive an A as their final grade in the course, and so on down the list for the other grades. Students 0 to 4 points below a grade cut-off (based on the 650 total points available) will automatically be raised to the higher grade (for example, a B raised to an A). Students who are 5-12 points below a grade cut-off are automatically raised to the next higher minus grade (for example, B raised to A-). Students who are 13 to 21 points below a grade cut-off will have a plus added to their grade (for example, a B to a B+). NOTE: There is no F+ grade, so only students 5-12 points below the D cutoff will receive a D- and all others remain an F.

## • COURSE WEBPAGE

Some useful materials for the course are available online at

<http://www.math.purdue.edu/courses/MA15300>

## • 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).

## • POSSIBLE CAMPUS EMERGENCIES

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, exam dates, deadlines, and grading procedures are subject to change due to a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Visit the course webpage at [www.math.purdue.edu/MA15300](http://www.math.purdue.edu/MA15300) or contact Patrick Devlin if you have questions (MATH 804), [pdevlin@purdue.edu](mailto:pdevlin@purdue.edu), (765) 494-1918.

## • COURSE EVALUATION

During the last two weeks of the semester, you will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this

course and your instructor. Purdue University has transitioned to online course evaluations. On Monday of the fifteenth week of classes, you will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site. You will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. Your participation in the evaluation is an integral part of this course. Your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. I strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.