Course Policy Statement
SM121 Calculus I
Asst. Professor Justin Allman, Fall 2019

1. The basics

Office: Chauvenet 352 **Phone:** 3-6774 **Email:** allman@usna.edu

Office Hours (EI): You may email me at any time to make an appointment for EI at the times posted by my office door. I cannot *guarantee* that I will be available at the exact time you prefer, but I can promise to work with you to find a mutually agreeable time.

Names: You can call me "Professor Allman" both in written and spoken communication. I intend to learn (hopefully quickly) your preferred names and call you by them. Please let me know your preferred name. For example, if your first name is given as Elizabeth in MIDS, but you prefer to be called "Lizzy", "Ella", "Ellie" *etc.*, please let me know.

Expectations for classroom environment: As your instructor, I am committed to creating a classroom environment that welcomes all students, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender, color, creed, social class, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, etc. We all have implicit biases, and I will try to continually examine my judgments, words, and actions to treat everyone with the fairness and respect they deserve. I hope that you will do the same, and that you will let me know if there is anything I can do to make sure everyone is encouraged to learn, participate, and succeed in this class. You should feel free to discuss with me any questions, concerns, or suggestions regarding this, and any other, aspect of the classroom environment.

Below are four axioms for learning, teaching, and doing mathematics (which I stole from Professor Frederico Ardila at San Francisco State University).

- Mathematical talent is distributed equally among different groups, irrespective of geographic, demographic, and economic boundaries.
- Everyone can have joyful, meaningful, and empowering mathematical experiences.
- Mathematics is a powerful, malleable tool that can be shaped and used differently by various communities to serve their needs.
- Every student deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Moreover, it is important to acknowledge that whether your experience with mathematics has previously been positive/negative/neutral, EVERYONE can still look forward to present and future enjoyment of mathematics.

2. Grades

Your final grade will depend on multiple types of **Know**ledge **D**emonstration **O**pportunities [KnowDOs].

KnowDO type	Percentage Weight
Participation/HW	10
Quiz Average	10
Midterm Test Average	50
Final Exam	30
Total	100

A score of greater than 90 is guaranteed to receive an A; a score of greater than 80 is guaranteed to receive at least a B; a score of greater than 70 is guaranteed to receive at least a C; a score of greater than 60 is guaranteed to receive at least a D.

At the 6- and 12-week marking periods, your letter grade will be determined by the following:

- **At 6 weeks**:
  - Your Participation/HW average through 6 weeks (25%)
  - Your Quiz Average through 6 weeks (25%)
  - Your Midterm Test Average (50%)
- **At 12 weeks**:
  - Your Participation/HW average through 12 weeks (20%)
  - Your Quiz Average through 12 weeks (20%)
  - Your Midterm Test Average (60%)

3. Attendance

You are expected to attend class.

4. Computers, calculators, etc.

During class we will often be using either a computer or calculator for calculations. Please bring your laptops to class, but please keep your laptops off your desk unless we are using them as part of a class activity..

You will be allowed to use the TI-36X calculator that has been issued to you on most assignments. Other than that specific calculator, you will not be permitted to use any other technology on tests and exams, but you are welcome to use aids on your homework for the purpose of deepening your learning.

5. Final Exam

The final exam location and time will be announced later. Be advised that both the location and time are very likely to be different from our normally scheduled class location and time. The final exam is common across all sections of SM121 and will include multiple choice and free response questions.

6. Day to day: Participation/HW

For most class days, you will work out assigned HW problems the night before. These problems are designed to increase your understanding of mathematics; **the rest of your group, and the class, will be depending on you to complete this work to the best of your ability**. When you get to class, we will

- spend the first 5-10 minutes in your group self-reporting your HW participation grade (0, 1, or 2 points; see below), discussing problems, and then deciding how to present your group's problem.
- For the next 20-25 minutes, each group will present one of the HW problems. You will need to take good notes during this period of the class, and you should be prepared to ask the presenters good questions to aid your own understanding. These problems will often be designed not just for practice, but to lead us to a new discovery.
- For the remaining class time, we will summarize our group and class discussions on the HW problems, and introduce any preparation needed for the next set of HW problems.

Participation/HW grades. When you self-report your HW grades, you should use the following rubric.

- 2 points: "I attempted every problem to the best of my ability; that is, for each problem I can either solve the problem, or can get to a point where I can describe a question or roadblock which is preventing me from solving the problem."
- 1 point: "I did not attempt every problem."
- 0 points: "I attempted no problems."

Your group will be assigned a problem (or group of problems) to present to the class. You can discuss this together, but only one of you will present at the board. The presenter will receive 1 extra HW point on that day for a successful presentation.