Math 232 Policy Information   Spring 2002

Instructor
Dr. Laura Taalman, Burruss 115, 568-3355 (office), 442-8800 (home), taal@math.jmu.edu.

Office Hours
12:15-2:00 Mondays and Wednesdays, Burruss 115. Also available by appointment.

Class Times
Section 01 meets MWF 10:10-11:00 and Tuesdays from 12:30-1:45 in Burruss 130. Section 02 meets MWF 11:15-12:05 in Burruss 130 and Tuesdays from 11:00-12:15 in Burruss 034.

Class Website
www.math.jmu.edu/~taal/232.html. Homework assignments for each week will be posted on Mondays. Keys to quizzes and tests will be posted on Wednesdays.

Grades
There will be three tests (100 points each), 11 quizzes (20 points each), and one final exam (200 points) in this course. There will also be at least ten attendance quizzes (2 points) and a few small opportunities for extra credit points. At the end of the semester I will use the following formula to determine your numerical score:

$$\text{numerical score} = \frac{\text{earned}(T + Q + F + A + E)}{\text{possible}(T + Q + F)}$$

I will use statistics to give you a letter grade for the course based on this numerical score. I reserve the right to decide borderline grades based on class participation, effort, and whether your performance improved or declined over the course of the semester.

Attendance
I will give at least ten 2-point attendance quizzes at random, at the beginning of class (although they are most likely to be on Fridays). These quizzes cannot be made up for any reason. If you must miss class on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday you do not have to tell me about it. However, I must know of any Tuesday abscences **in advance**. At my discretion, I may excuse you from a Tuesday quiz or a test if ask me in advance. **If you miss a quiz or a test without first being excused, you will not be allowed to make it up.** However, if you have a problem or emergency and could not speak to me in advance, you should still come to me and explain your situation. My sympathy with your plight will be determined by how quickly you speak with me.

Homework, Quizzes, and Tests
Homework will be assigned but not collected. I would bet money that single most important predictor of your grade in this class is how much homework you do. Tuesday quizzes will cover the material from MTWF of the week before, and will consist *entirely* of homework problems. Tests will cover all material covered since the previous test, and will consist *mostly* of homework problems. The final exam will be cumulative.

Calculators
A graphing calculator is required for this course. However, there will be quizzes and exams on which the use of calculators is not permitted, so don't use your calculator as a crutch! If your only calculator is a TI-89 or a TI-92 please see me as soon as possible, since I may ban those two calculators from *every* quiz and test.

Getting Help
Please feel free to ask me for help any time, any day of the week. I do not mind if you call me at my home number (see above). You can also get help at the Math and Science Learning Center (Wilson 104) most days of the week.

Advice
Read each section in the book before starting the exercises. Do all the homework problems as soon as possible after they are assigned. Come to class and participate while you're there! Don't fall behind; seek help quickly if there is something you don't understand! Math takes time to learn; don't assume that you can learn material a few days before an exam. Math is about *understanding*, not memorizing. Work in groups and talk about math as much as possible outside of class. Hang out in the Math and Science Learning Center and find people to work with. To prepare for a test or a quiz, be sure you know concepts as well as calculations. Make up test problems and see if you can answer them.