

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB (Section 280-01) for 2016-17

Mr. Brian Klimas - Archbishop Molloy High School

"Math is not a spectator sport." - Ms. Jeanne Longerano

"Try It, You'll Like It!" - Br. Roy George

"Non Scholae, Sed Vitae." - AMHS

Contact Information: Room 212 OR bklimas@molloyhs.org (DO NOT EXPECT AN INSTANTANEOUS RESPONSE)

Class Materials:

- www.brianklimas.com: you MUST have internet access for this class!
- Your Textbook: Calculus - Concepts and Applications by Paul A. Foerster (2nd Edition)
 - ... it is used primarily for homework assignments; a wide range of other sources will fill in the gaps
- A 1-inch, three-ring binder: for your class notes and your homework... bring to class every day!
 - NOTE: Please stock your binder with loose leaf and graph paper.
- A TI84+C Graphing Calculator... bring to class when you are asked!
- Two Folders: the FIRST - for your old exams, old notes, and old homework (collected on MONDAY for credit)
 - the SECOND - for your own personal use
- The Usual Stuff: pens, pencils, your enthusiasm, etc....

Grading Components:

- 1) Chapter Exams (35-55 pts each): frequent & announced, these comprehensive tests are taken after every chapter; these assessments account for a majority of your final grade.
- 2) Curriculum Quizzes (10-25 pts each): very rare & announced, these mini-tests are based on class material.
- 3) Supply Quizzes (3 pts each): frequent & unannounced, these before-class assessments ask you to hold a required object in the air. If you have it, you get a 3/3; if not, you get a 0/3.
- 4) Participation Grade (25 pts): Your score, which begins each marking period at a 20 and has a maximum of 26, fluctuates on a daily basis based upon your actions in class. Points are gained as a result of your positive actions (ex: coming to the board, correcting my work, adding insight to class discussions, etc...). Points are deducted as a result of your negative behavior (ex: lateness, doing other work without asking, being disrespectful, etc...). All gains and losses for the marking period are catalogued at the bottom of each progress report.
- 5) Group Work - there are two types:
 - A) during the Regular Class period (variable pts): frequent & unannounced, these in-depth explorations are used to help you to understand a particular topic. Some groups will be randomly assigned, while other matchups will be chosen by Mr. Klimas and/or the students. Grading criteria will be given at the start of each assignment.
 - B) during the Lab Period (15-25 pts each): Once per cycle, as the 7th period in 6 days, students will be given an assignment to complete in groups to demonstrate their comprehension of a topic. These groups will be assigned by Mr. Klimas and change once every few weeks. Every student will be given the assignment, but only ONE of the group's sheets will be graded, and all group members will be given that same grade.

Extra Credit: While I DO NOT OFFER EXTRA CREDIT, you may donate a box of tissues to the classroom, ONCE for the entire school year, to earn a participation bonus that is equivalent to ONE POINT on your average for the marking period.

Retakes: For those of you that have had me before, I want to be clear... for an AP class, there are NO EXAM RETAKES!

A few additional comments about your grade:

"VR's," or Voluntary Responses, refer to the number of times that I call on you. The total is listed on your progress report and doesn't affect your grade until THE END of the quarter, when you will be awarded a scaled number of participation points based on your total for the marking period.

If you are absent for an exam, you must make it up within three days of your return. Failure to make up an exam within that time will result in you receiving a zero on the exam. If you are continually absent on test days, for the THIRD exam that you miss, you must make it up on THE SAME DAY that you return to class.

For ONE EXAM the entire school year, you may postpone taking it by telling me *in person (NOT VIA EMAIL), prior to the day of the exam*; you cannot postpone a test on the same day that you are scheduled to take it.

Extra Help: I am available for tutoring AFTER school in Room 212 on a regular basis, and the schedule, which changes weekly, is posted beside the classroom entrance. I am generally NOT available during the school day; if you want to see if I can help during your free periods, please ask in advance.

Homework: You are assigned homework on a nightly basis, but you will often be given time during class to begin this work. The work is to be done on loose leaf and stored in your binder. Completing and understanding your homework will more than prepare you for the Chapter Exams.

AP Test Preparation: In addition to the lab assignments, which are generally based on AP questions, exams will mirror the format of the AP test, and supplemental work will be given as the test date approaches.

Test Days: When we have an exam, you are expected to assist in the process of getting yourself and the classroom ready, because the more time that we waste getting settled, the less time that you will have for the test! Upon entering the room and check off your name on the attendance roster before taking your randomly assigned seat. If the exam requires a calculator, it will be reset upon entering. Before the test is distributed, all students must remove their lanyards and clear their desks of everything except for writing implements and, possibly, a calculator. After completing an exam, turn in it by raising your hand. When you have finished with the test, you may work on material for your other classes, but you cannot leave the room, so be sure to bring anything that you would like to work on with you at the start of the period. **Making noise during/after the exam will result in a two-point deduction from your participation score.**

Supplemental Syllabus: The provided sample syllabus outlines the course requirements as described by the College Board.

And some final random thoughts...

I am more than happy to discuss your grades, but these conversations will take place **AFTER SCHOOL.**

There are NO 'bathroom' breaks during the first/last five minutes of the period.

I do not expect you to be a math superstar;

I do expect you to work hard, try your best, and respect each other and yourself.

Please don't stick your gum under the desk; get up and throw it in the trash

...and finally... I'm here to help... ASK for it!