

New Paltz Central High School

New Paltz Central School District 196 Main Street, New Paltz, New York 12561

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Welcome to AP Calculus

In this course, we will be learning differential and integral calculus. How would you describe calculus? Where possible, topics in this course are introduced graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The intent is to move beyond algebraic and symbolic aspects of calculus and give meaning and understanding through applications. In this course we will take the math you have learned thus far in your school career and apply it in a plethora of ways. We will look at business applications, sports applications, abstract mathematics, physics, etc. Besides applying calculus, there is a mechanical component of the course where students are expected to be able to work through calculations and concepts without the aid of a calculator. Students will also be expected to express in writing their solutions and process.

Expectations: Students will work hard and meet or exceed their personal goals for this class. I expect that every student will be prepared for each class period. As this is an AP course, students are expected to spend at least an hour of time outside of class for every hour of class time doing homework, working on problem sets, reviewing notes, or studying for upcoming assessments. The course is designed to deepen an understanding of the world around us and to align with Common Core standards and the AP Calculus curriculum. Students will take the AP Calculus AB exam on Tuesday May 5, 2020 at 8 AM.

Curriculum Topics:

Limits, continuity, derivatives (mechanically and conceptually), applied derivatives, anti-differentiation, integration, applied integration, and AP review. What do you prefer to be called (nick names, pronouns, etc.)? What are your hobbies and interests?

Grading

Daily Check: 5 points

A short daily quiz ("daily check") will be given at the beginning of most classes. The daily check will be based on the homework and/or material from the previous class. Each quarter, two to four of your lowest daily check grades will be dropped. **If you miss a daily check due to an absence, you may make up the daily check as long as you make it up before the next class. If not, a missed daily check will count towards one of the dropped daily checks.**

Homework will be given on a daily basis in addition to problem sets that will be collected. If you have questions on homework problems, feel free to work with a compatriot, look for resources on my website or on-line, and/or come work with me during lunch, before school or after school. What are your goals for this class and what can I do to help you attain those goals?

Class Work and Problem Sets: 2 to 10 points

Some of the problems and activities that we do during class will be collected and graded. Problem sets will be regularly assigned as homework and collected and graded. All problem sets turned in on time may be corrected for full credit.

Quizzes and Tests: 20 to 50 points

There are usually 4 or 5 quizzes/tests per quarter. If you miss a test due to an absence, you will be expected to take the test the class you return.

Your Grade

Your quarter average can be determined at any time by adding up the number of points earned and dividing it by the total number of possible points.

Materials Needed

Please note that students are expected to have a TI-84 or TI-83 graphing calculator for use in this course. Also please also note that at many times, students will not be using any calculator!

Other Important Info**Missing Class:**

If you miss class, you are expected to look on my website to see what work you missed. You are also encouraged to come find me before the next class, either after school or during the day, to learn any new material we covered and to be prepared for the next daily quiz. Remember: If you plan to make up a missed daily check, you need to make it up **before** the next class.

After-School Help:

Please come after school anytime if you have questions or need help on anything. You can find me in the math office (room 214A) or in room 137 after school everyday. I am often here until the cows come home, so drop by anytime. You may also reach me through e-mail at kstewart@newpaltz.k12.ny.us.

Webpage:

I will post all assignments, solutions to homework questions, problem sets, video lessons, and announce upcoming tests and projects on my school webpage, so check that regularly. Do you have any questions for me? Is there anything else you'd like me to know to help you have a productive year? E-mail me the answers to these questions (and the four others throughout this document) at kstewart@newpaltz.k12.ny.us

Let's work together to make this a productive year for all of us!