

**CLASS POLICIES**  
Topics in Calculus & Advanced Placement Calculus  
Lily Kolman, 2007-2008

## **I. Class goals**

The aims of this class are the following:

- \*To develop problem solving skills and the capacity for independent inquiry
- \*To cover content that will prepare students for succeeding in college-level math courses
- \*To gain students college credit via the Advanced Placement (AP) or College Level Proficiency (CLEP) examinations

## **II. Grading Policy**

Your grade will be based on the following components:

- |                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| A. Class Participation- | 20% weighting |
| B. Problem sets-        | 30% weighting |
| C. Tests and quizzes-   | 50% weighting |

**A. Class Participation** will reflect your punctuality, attendance, and contributions to class. Each class period will be worth 3 points.

**Automatic deductions:**

- |                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Late:                      | -1 |
| More than 25 minutes late: | -2 |
| Absent:                    | -3 |

You may also lose participation points due to failure to participate appropriately in class.

**B. Problem sets** are extended homework assignments typical of college classes. They will be given out approximately every 2 weeks, except when a unit exam is imminent. Students are permitted to work on problem sets with classmates, but every student must turn in his or her own answers and show evidence of independent thought. Problem sets will be graded for accuracy and completion. They will ask students to apply *and extend* what they have learned in class.

**C. Tests and quizzes** will be given periodically throughout the semester. Students will always have an opportunity to retake an alternate (and possibly more difficult) version of a test or quiz to improve their grade. New grades will replace former grades.

## **III. Non-graded items**

- D. Classroom norms and operations
- E. Practice problems
- F. Grade transparency
- G. Contact information and extra help
- H. Class website

### **D. Classroom norms and operations**

Everyday you will receive a classwork packet to assist in our class discussions. You are expected to follow along in the packet as class proceeds; however, there are no formal requirements for completing problems or writing notes in the packet. That part is up to you, although I recommend that you complete the packet during class. Classwork packets will substitute for textbook work, and are meant to provide study aids and assistance in completing problem sets.

Classwork packets will be available for download on the class website. I highly recommend downloading packets for any day you happen to miss class.

## **E. Practice Problems**

At the end of every classwork packet you will find a small number of practice problems. These problems substitute for daily homework assignments. They are not required and will not be graded. They are meant to help you check and improve your own understanding. It is up to you to decide which problems to complete. Before the following class, solutions will be posted on the class website. However, class time may or may not be devoted to going over practice problems.

## **F. Grade transparency**

My grades will be updated daily and are available to you whenever you choose via the website mygradebook.com. The classword is "HarborCalc" and your password is your 9-digit OSIS number. Please ask if you have any questions regarding the source or nature of your grade.

## **G. Contact information and extra help**

This year, I will be at school all day one day a week only. On Thursdays, I will hold office hours in room 409 from 10 am to 4 pm. However, as I do have to leave my office on occasion, you should make an appointment beforehand if you want to insure I will be there. After school hours, I am available by email or phone. My email address is lkolman@schools.nyc.gov, and my cell phone number is 847-682-7013.

Weekly problem set sessions will be held **Thursdays during 4th period in room 421B** on weeks when a problem set is due. Lunch will be provided to students who attend.

## **H. Class website**

The class website for both Topics in Calculus and AP Calculus is

**<http://harborcalc.angelfire.com>**

Please consult it for reference documents, assignments, problem sets, and to see solutions to class assignments and exams.

**Good luck and get ready to work!**