

AP Calculus AB Course Description

COURSE OUTLINE: The following topics define the AP Calculus AB course as it is taught over three trimesters, each consisting of twelve week grading periods.

Limits and their Properties

- * The Tangent Line Problem
- * The Area Problem
- * An Introduction to Limits
- * Limits That Fail to Exist
- * Properties of Limits
- * Strategies for Finding Limits
 - Analytically
 - Graphically
 - Using tables to approximate limits
- * Continuity at a point and one sided limits
- * One-Sided Limits and Continuity on a Closed Interval
- * The Squeeze Theorem for limits
- * Properties of Continuity
- * The Intermediate Value Theorem
- * Definition of and determination of Infinite Limits and Vertical Asymptotes
 - Limits of Infinity
 - Limits at Infinity

Differentiation

- * Use graphing calculators: zoom-in exercise and local linearity
- * The tangent line problem
- * Definition of the Derivative of a function
- * Sketching a Derivative Based on the Graph of $f(x)$
- * Relationship between differentiability and continuity
 - Zoom-in activity for ;
 - Sharp turn discussion
 - Vertical tangent discussion
- * Differentiation Rules
 - Power Rule
 - Constant Multiple Rule
 - Sum and Difference Rule
- * Derivatives of Sine and Cosine Functions
- * Graphing only : f , f' , f''
 - * Approximating rates of change from graphs and tables
 - * The product rule and quotient rule
 - * Derivatives of trigonometric functions
 - * Higher-Order Derivatives
 - * Position, Velocity, Acceleration Functions

- * The Chain Rule
- * The General Power Rule
- * Trigonometric Functions and the Chain Rule
- * Implicit Differentiation
- * Related Rates

Applications of Differentiations

- * Extrema of a function
- * Relative extrema and critical numbers
- * Extrema on a closed interval
- * Rolle's Theorem and the Mean Value Theorem
- * Increasing and decreasing functions
- * The First Derivative Test
 - Relative and absolute extrema
- * The Second Derivative Test
 - Concavity
 - Points of inflection
- * Horizontal asymptotes
- * Curve-sketching techniques
 - Graphing given the functional equation
 - Relating f , f' , f''
 - Symmetry of graphs
- * Applied Minimum and Maximum Problems (Optimization)
- * Calculating differentials
- * Linear approximations
- * Tangent line approximations
- * Application problems involving position, velocity, and acceleration, and rectilinear motion
- * Graphical analysis of position versus time, velocity versus time, and acceleration versus time

Integration

- * Antiderivatives and indefinite integration
- * Notation for anti-derivatives
- * Basic Integration Rules
- * Initial Conditions and Particular Solutions
- * Area: Sigma Notation
- * The Area of a Plane Region
- * Definite integral as a limit of a Riemann Sum
 - Upper, Lower, Midpoint sums
 - Use Riemann sums and trapezoidal sums to approximate definite integrals presented analytically, graphically, or as tables of data.
- * Trapezoidal Rule
- * Definite Integrals and their properties
- * Use of the First Fundamental Theorem of Calculus in evaluating integrals
- * The Mean Value Theorem for Integrals
- * Average Value of a Function
- * The Second Fundamental Theorem of Calculus
- * Integration by substitution; change of variables in the integration process
- * The General Power Rule for integration

- * Change of Variables for Definite Integrals
- * Integration of even and odd Functions
- * Functions defined by integrals
- * Error Analysis

Logarithmic, Exponential, and other Transcendental Functions

- * The natural logarithmic function
- * The number e as a limit
- * The derivative of the natural log function
- * Log rule for integration
- * Integrals of trigonometric functions
- * Inverse Functions
- * Existence of an inverse function
- * Derivative of an inverse function
- * The natural exponential functions
- * Derivatives of exponential functions
- * Integrals of exponential functions
- * Bases other than e
- * Applications of exponential functions
- * Differential equations and separation of variables
- * Growth and decay models
- * Newton's Law of Cooling
- * Slope Fields
 - Geometric interpretation of slope fields and differential equations
 - Drawing slope fields
- * Inverse trigonometric functions: Domains, ranges, and graphs
- * Derivatives of inverse trigonometric functions
- * Integration of inverse trigonometric functions

Applications of Integration

- * The integral defined as the accumulation of rates of change
- * Area of a region between two curves
- * Volume of solids of revolution
 - the disk and washer methods
 - the shell method
- * Volume of solids with known cross sections
- * Arc length in $f(x)$ form
- * Integration involved with motion applications of position, velocity, and acceleration.
 - Using initial conditions and the definite integral to calculate distance traveled.