

Lab Grading Policies

Nobody makes it into a third quarter Calculus class without being exceptionally bright. For this reason, you may at some time in the past, have decided that it is easier to work alone than to work with others. This is unfortunate for two reasons:

1. The further you go in math (or any other discipline), the more difficult the material becomes. If you go far enough, no matter how smart you think you are, you will reach a point that you cannot proceed without help.
2. Presumably the end result of your education will be to obtain a job that you enjoy and that will maintain you in a style in which you enjoy. Almost certainly this job will require you to work with others.

The labs we will cover in this class serve two purposes, they allow us to dig deeper into the fertile soil of Calculus, and they provide us the opportunity to develop our cooperative skills. Many of you, at some point after you transfer, will take a class where a single group project might be worth as much as one of your midterms. It can be difficult to rely on others for such a large part of your grade. To ease you into these dynamics, your labs represent a relatively small part of your grade, each lab accounting for about 2% of your overall course grade. Part of your grade for each of these labs will depend on the other members of your group.

Formatting: Each lab member is required to turn in their own lab report. The problems must be completed in the order they are assigned, skipping a line between problems and using only the front side of each page. You may use up to two columns on your page. If you choose to use two columns, you must complete the column on the left before moving on to the column on the right. All pages of the homework must be stapled together in the left hand corner. You must include your name and your team name on the first page.

General Grading: You must turn in your assignment as soon as you walk into class, even if you are late to class. Each lab is worth 50 points. Failure to turn in a lab report will result in a 0. Any formatting error will cost you 5 points. There will be no late labs accepted. As I grade each section of the lab, I will randomly select different lab reports to assess. Every member of the lab group will receive the same score for a particular section as the one member whose report I assessed for that section. It is in your best interest to meet with your group outside of class time to make sure that everyone understands and agrees upon conclusions.

Group Size: Groups must consist of three or four people. Groups must be declared on the day a lab is introduced. These days are highlighted in yellow on the class calendar online. After the first lab you will have the opportunity to choose your own groups provided that everyone who is present on time on a lab day has the opportunity to join a group with at least 3 members. If this is not the case, I reserve the right to reform groups as needed. You may change lab groups after each lab, but you are not required to do so. If you are not there on a lab day, you may still do the lab as a group of 1, but you will be subject to a 10 point penalty. You may, of course, make arrangements ahead of time with other members of the class to declare yourself as part of their group on the day groups are declared.

Incompletes: To avoid groups being penalized for a member who does not complete certain sections you will need to indicate whenever your lab is incomplete. You **MUST** clearly write "Incomplete" at the top of the front page of your lab and indicate which sections you did not do. Your lab will only be graded out of the sections you completed. Failure to do this will result in a score of 0 for the individual who has an incomplete lab.