

Reference Sheet for AP Calculus AB: 2023-2024

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conference: _____ period

Congratulations! You have arrived! You are now taking the toughest course you will ever take in high school. Ready?

1. Binders will become your living textbook. Each of you will be building a review book to prepare for the AP test in MAY. You will need to put all your notes/handouts in your binder. It would be a great idea to make "tabs" with sticky note tabs and label the concepts as we go. When April comes and it's time to study for your exam, you will have everything you need in your binder. You will need to section your binder into notes, current homework, AP Review, AP Problems. **DO NOT LOSE YOUR HOMEWORK!!**
2. Daily grades are given so that everyone knows you know something about the subject you took: colleges want to know if you know it, parents want to brag that you know it (or ground you, whatever applies), school sponsors and coaches want you to know it so you can participate in that extracurricular thing you signed up to do, **EVERYONE** Is watching! All homework assignments are due on test day: no exceptions (see #5). Each nine weeks, there will be approximately 3 sets of homework, 3 problem sessions (which include quizzes) which will count as 40% of your grade.
3. PROBLEM SESSIONS Problem sessions will consist of AP free response questions from past AP Exams or very similar material. Problem Sessions will be handed out on a Monday (or some other day of the week) and you will have one week to complete them. They **WILL NOT** be accepted late! They will be turned in the following Monday (or whatever is one week from the day handed to you). Problem Sessions will be graded using AP grading methods. You will receive a scoring guideline to show how many points you need for each score. These questions are $\frac{2}{3}$ of the problem session grade. Problem Sessions are the single most important way to prepare for the AP Exam. You **MAY NOT** help each other or get outside help on these. **DO NOT** attempt to get answers to these from ex-students, tutors, and/or the internet. This is the quickest way I know to get a zero on the assignment, and you are destined to fail the AP Exam if you have not practiced these. You will have some multiple-choice problem sessions further into the year as well. PS are not a large part of your grade, so **PLEASE** treat these as they are intended: a learning experience, not a grade buster!
4. AP QUIZZES The day you turn in your Problem Sessions you will take a timed AP Quiz. This will consist of one (or more) AP Free Response Problem(s) from previous AP Exams. You will have 20 minutes to complete the quiz. These will be graded on an AP scale and will be $\frac{1}{3}$ of the problem session grade
5. Homework assignments are given for you to practice what we learn. All assignments should be clearly labeled with name, date, and page number/name of assignment. All homework assignments should be written in pencil and failure to do so will result in a 0 on that

assignment. Completion will be checked at the beginning of class each day by a neighbor you trust. AN AP STUDENT SHOULD ALWAYS HAVE THEIR WORK COMPLETED. All corrections should be done in a different color pencil or colored pen. Always complete assigned problems prior to class so you will know what you need help with each day.

5. Homework sessions: all homework assignments will be turned in on the day you are tested on that section. Assignments for each section need to be stapled together in order according to date. They will be collected at the beginning of class on test day and given a grade based on completion and work shown. NO credit will be given for a problem with no work shown (AP level/style work). Answers without work are called “bald answers” and are not accepted on the AP Test. No homework sessions can be turned in late.
DO NOT FORGET THEM ON TEST DAY!
6. Tests are given for me to measure what you have retained. Test grades are 60% of your average, so it is very important that you study and do well on them. Approximately 3 tests will be given each 9 nine weeks. There will be some tests that will be in the same format as the AP Calculus AB Exam (Multiple Choice and/or Free Response Questions, with and/or without calculators) and will be graded “AP style”. Because the AP Exam is *timed*, there will be a time limit for completion of every test you take in class. You may not work on the test past that limit. Unless the test is graded “AP style”, all unanswered items will be marked incorrect and count against your grade. Time constraints add pressure to any test situation, and you must learn to be accurate and efficient with your time.
7. “AP Style” grading means that you EARN points for what you did correctly as required by the grading rubric. *Since you don’t know what work will be awarded the points, show everything required to answer the question, including correct justifications when asked.*
8. In order to be ready for the AP Exam, you must work everyday in class and you must plan on *spending at least 20 minutes of study time at home each evening*. NOTECARDS are a great way to study concepts! PLEASE form a study group and study together often!
9. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up the work! Be prepared to make up any test that you miss IMMEDIATELY upon your return to class. Exceptions to this policy will take place only in EXTREME situations and need to be discussed with me as soon as possible. Homework assignments that must be made up should be completed as soon as possible, but NO LATER than test day. Be sure to get any notes missed during your absence from a friend. I do not post Calculus Notes online.
10. Worksheets/handouts/notes WILL NOT be posted on the blog. If you know you will be absent or if you are absent for any reason, you will need to make arrangements to have a friend get your assignment for you and to copy their notes. Choose your friends wisely. Being absent is not an excuse to come to class unprepared.
11. TUTORING Tutoring is available from Mrs. Cook either before school or at an arranged time. If you need help with homework, you can come in to work individually or as a group. Please know that you are always welcome! Mrs. Jennings also knows Calculus, so if she’s not busy, she can help too.

12. **REASSESSMENT POLICY:** During the last week of each 9 weeks, a test will be given over all material covered that nine weeks. The questions will be similar to those from tests given during the nine weeks. This test is mandatory for anyone who has failed a test during the nine weeks but is optional for anyone who passed all tests. The nine weeks test grade may take the place of any ONE test given during the nine weeks. The maximum grade is a 100, so everyone is eligible for this test! You will need to make sure you keep all materials (handouts, notes, etc) given during the nine weeks so you may study for this test. Students who choose not to take the nine weeks test will need something to read or work on while others test. It is in your best interest to take each nine-week test. You need to constantly review what we learn, and this is one way to do that.
13. **REMEMBER** the goal of this class is to prepare you for the Advanced Placement Calculus Exam. Everyone participates as if you were taking the exam even if you are not. The emphasis will be on understanding concepts and applying concepts to a variety of problem situations. Every problem that is assigned is important. To succeed in this class, you must:
- Come to class prepared by working hard in class and at home.
 - Pay attention! Don't get behind, complete homework problems PRIOR to class, and ALWAYS do your BEST!
 - Treat everyone with respect. No one needs to be intimidated to ask questions.
14. **MANDATORY SUPPLIES** (You must have these asap)
- Small binder to keep up with handouts--don't lose the handouts! They are important to keep for review for the AP exam
 - Notebook Paper
 - Pencils and Grading Pens
 - TI 84 Graphing Calculator
15. **Remind** please sign up for REMIND. The directions can be found on the class blog.
16. **Phones and smart watches** If I'm teaching or you're testing/quizzing, DO not have them accessible!
17. **PARENTS AND PHONES:** Parents, please do not text or call during class time. If you have an emergency, please call the school office. One year I had a mom continually text their child during class, getting angry that this student wasn't responding. It was a complete disruption of my class and really put the student in a very difficult position. Their focus and the focus of the entire classroom was lost. It was not an emergency. The parent wanted to know what their child wanted for lunch. Please respect my class time, your student's desire to respect you, and consider that we must all follow the school rules.
18. **Cheating** should never occur! If you feel the need to cheat, perhaps you are in the wrong class. If you are resorting to photomath or some other online tool to complete your assignment, you are only hurting yourself. If you are truly struggling, either get help or get out and get into something that you can do. There are consequences to cheating. The most common thing that shows because of cheating is that your test grades are failing. Please learn the math.
19. <https://activecalculus.org/single> Use this site if you are absent or struggling and need more help. There are also more online sites listed on the blog.
20. There will be a homework session addendum coming soon.