Math 2123: Technical Calculus I, Section 001, Fall 2014

Class Meeting: MWF 8:30-9:20, in HSCI 004

Instructor: Alek Malcom
E-mail: alekzam@okstate.edu (the best way to contact me)
Office: 431 Mathematical Sciences Building
Office Hours: Tues., 9:30-11:20; Wed, 9:30-10:20 and 4:30-5:20, and by appointment. All hours in the MLSC.
Online Classroom (D2L) site: https://oc.okstate.edu (then log in and find our course)
Textbook: *Technical Calculus with Analytic Geometry*, *5th edition* by Peter Kuhfittig

This is a three credit-hour mathematics class that goes quickly and will certainly be more abstract than other math courses you have taken. You should expect to average six hours of work outside of class per week and more if you are struggling. It is very difficult to succeed at this level of mathematics without consistently spending that much time reading the textbook, doing practice problems, and getting help.

Syllabus Attachment: Please read the OSU syllabus attachment on the web at http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/images/Patty/FacultyandStaffResources/Syllabus/fall 2014 syllabus-final.pdf. This has a lot of important information, including instructions about disability accommodations. Please contact me privately during the first week of the course if you need accommodations as the result of a disability.

Grading: There are two schemes, and for each student, I will pick the one that gives the higher grade.

Scheme 1		Scheme 2	
3 hour exams	15% each	3 hour exams	10% each
Final exam	25%	Final exam	40%
Homework, quizzes, classwork	28%	Homework, quizzes, classwork	28%
Attendance	4%	Attendance	4%

Earning a score of 90% guarantees an A for the semester, 80% a B, 70% a C, and 60% a D. I reserve the right to use discretion if you are on the borderline between two grades, taking into consideration performance on the final exam, improvement or decline during the semester, attendance, and my subjective judgment of your effort.

Attendance: Attendance is required. Please see the "Conflicts" section for information about excused absences. You will receive full credit if you attend all 50 minutes of at least 40 of the 44 classes this spring. You will lose six percentage points on your attendance grade for every unexcused absence beyond four. **These are easy points; don't let them go to waste.**

Exams: All exams will be in class. The tentative hour exam dates are **Friday, September 12; Friday, October 3; and Friday, October 31**. I will communicate any changes in class and in writing. The final exam is on **Friday, December 12**, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.

Quizzes and Classwork: I will give short quizzes in class, usually but not necessarily always announcing them in advance. On some days, you may hand in other work that you complete in class, possibly individually and possibly done in groups. I will not announce days on which we do this classwork in advance.

Homework: It is impossible to learn calculus without practicing it. I will assign written homework at least once a week, but hopefully more often. I will announce all due dates in class, and I do not accept late homework, nor do I drop any grades. **Missing homework can dramatically lower your course grade**, so please keep up with the work, and start early. **You should expect to have to work hard to get some of the problems; you don't learn anything by doing problems identical to what I do in class.** Almost all of my best students need to come to office hours at least occasionally; you should see me at the first sign of trouble.

Conflicts: I will offer reasonable accommodation in the event that you miss a major assessment activity for a valid and documented reason, assuming documentation is provided **in advance unless absolutely impossible**. For a quiz or exam, you need to tell me as soon as you know you have a conflict and will be ineligible for a make-up if you do not. If you won't be in class when homework is due, turn it in early or give it to someone else to turn in prior to the deadline. I require proof of the reason for your absence (e.g., a doctor's note, proof of involvement in an OSU-sponsored activity, etc.), and you should not assume you will be eligible for a make-up exam or quiz unless I have explicitly approved your request. The same rules apply for attendance credit; I require documentation, usually in advance, to excuse any absence.

Calculators: I will not allow any calculators during quizzes or exams if those calculators have any calculus capabilities (this includes all graphing calculators and some non-graphing calculators). A calculator with the four basic functions (+,-,×,÷) and a square root will suffice for all numerical calculations we need this semester. Don't use calculators as a substitute for conceptual understanding.

Academic Honesty: Don't cheat. Don't copy off of other students, allow other students to copy your work, or present work you find in printed or electronic sources as your own. You may get help on homework from other people or sources but should write your solutions independently, without looking at anything someone else has produced. **In this class, copying on quizzes or exams or allowing someone to copy off of you may result in an F! for the course. Copying or allowing someone to copy your work on homework carries a penalty of up to 10 percentage points off your semester homework grade in the first instance and an F! in the class in a second instance. Fraudulently signing an attendance sheet for someone else or having someone sign for you will result in a zero for the semester attendance grade and possibly an F! in the class at my discretion.** For questions, contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, (405) 744-5627, http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu.

Special Accommodations for Students:
Incomplete Grades:
Academic Integrity:
* For further information about these topics, see http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/faculty-a-staff and the syllabus attachment linked at the bottom of this page.

What if I need help? You have lots of resources for this course. Often students find it helpful to talk to each other and work through homework or practice problems together. You're encouraged to post questions and answers in the Discussion section of the Online Classroom. For **quick** questions, you can send me e-mail if you're really too shy to post there, and you should certainly come see me in person during office hours if you have something more than a quick question. Finally, there is free tutoring available in the MLSC. See http://www.math.okstate.edu/mlsc for details. **Above all, see me early if you have questions.** Good luck.

First Assignment: Easiest 5 points of the semester, due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 22.

1. Send me an e-mail at alekzam@okstate.edu. Write me a **paragraph** (not a list) including your name, year in school, major, hometown, last math class (and instructor if taken at OSU), and anything interesting about yourself you want to tell me, especially your interests in and out of school. These e-mails let me know something about my students and help me get to know everyone. If you don't get a reply from me within a day, I probably didn't receive the e-mail; talk to me about it.
2. Go to https://oc.okstate.edu to log on to the Online Classroom (Desire2Learn). After logging in, you should see Math 2123 in your list of courses. Look at the course documents in the Content section, and find the Discussion board. You should use the Discussion board to converse with me and with others in the class about homework and exam preparation.
3. Read the syllabus attachment at
   http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/images/Patty/FacultyandStaffResources/Syllabus/fall 2014 syllabus-final.pdf