

Math 1020 Calculus 2 Sections 11-14: Grading and Course Policies

The **advance grade** for the course is a grade computed prior to the final exam. The **course grade** is your final grade for the course.

The advance grade will be computed as follows:

- 75 % exams (25 % each) (These are conventional exams)
- 25 % skills quizzes (from the Calculus Skills NPC problem set)

The final exam will be required for everyone, and must be taken **AT THE TIME AND LOCATION ASSIGNED** unless an excuse is approved and verified by the Dean of Students Office. The final exam will include 20 % skills problems from the same set of CSNPC problems the quizzes are drawn from. In addition to counting toward the final exam grade, the skills portion of the final will also be treated as a cumulative skills quiz (see below) so that a problem solved correctly on this assessment can replace an incorrect one from the previous quizzes.

The course grade will be determined in whichever of the following two ways produces the highest grade:

- (A) course grade = 80 % advance grade and 20 % Final Exam
- (B) course grade = 60 % advance grade and 40 % Final Exam

The idea is that a good performance on the final exam can help you substantially whereas a single bad day on the final won't destroy your course grade utterly.

Calculators are not permitted for in-class exams or quizzes. Each exam (not including the skills quizzes) and the final exam will be worth 105 points but will be counted as if they were 100-point exams (effectively awarding 5 free bonus points). There will be no other curve on the exams and no curve on the quizzes. Thus, the course grade will be obtained numerically based on the scheme described above, and letter grades will be computed as follows:

- $\geq 93 = A$
- $90 - 92 = A -$
- $87 - 89 = B +$
- $83 - 86 = B$
- $80 - 82 = B -$
- $76 - 79 = C +$
- $70 - 75 = C$
- $65 - 69 = C -$
- $60 - 64 = D +$
- $55 - 59 = D$
- $< 55 = F$

Additional Course Policies:

1. **Homework:** You are encouraged to work with others on the homework assignments. Since they are not graded anyway, your only priority should be understanding the problems and formulating questions to be asked during recitation.

2. **Quizzes:** The quizzes will typically last 10-15 minutes and will consist of a few problems from the Calculus Skills Problem Set. If you miss a quiz without a documented excuse, you will receive a zero and will not be allowed to make the quiz up.

You will have the opportunity periodically to improve your grade on the skills quizzes in the following fashion. Near the time of each of our three major exams, a cumulative skills quiz will be given. It can potentially contain versions of any of the skills problems given on a previous skills quiz. If you solve a problem correctly that you solved incorrectly on a previous quiz, you will now receive credit for that problem. The skills portion of the final exam will also serve as a cumulative skills quiz for purposes of improving quiz grades.

3. **Academic Integrity on Exams and Quizzes:** All work submitted in a quiz or exam must be your own. Collaborating on a quiz or examination is not permitted. Academic dishonesty may result in an exam or quiz grade of zero and a report to the Dean of Students. Additional penalties may be imposed and can be harsh; check the section on Academic Integrity in the Rensselaer Student Handbook.

Any student that submits a changed answer of a Calculus Skills Problem for re-grading will have violated an academic integrity standard. The uniform penalty will be failure in the course. If a student submits an appeal, he or she is responsible, regardless of whether he or she “knew” the answer had been changed.

4. **Contesting Grades and Retrieving Graded Work:** If you wish to contest a graded exam or quiz, you must speak to your recitation instructor within **one week** of the date the assignment is first returned in class. After this deadline, the grade will be final. Also, if your work is not picked up within one week of the date the assignment is returned in class, you forfeit all rights to contest the grade.

5. **Make-Up Exams:** If you must miss an exam because of a prior obligation, you must speak to me about it IN ADVANCE of the exam. If you miss an exam for an unforeseen but valid reason (e.g., illness) you must contact me within 24 hours of the exam and obtain a WRITTEN EXCUSE (from medical professional or Dean of Students) or the infirmary must confirm your illness. If you miss an exam WITHOUT a valid excuse (e.g., your alarm didn't go off, etc.) you MUST contact me within 24 hours of the exam time. If you do so, you will be given a make-up exam, but will automatically lose 15 points off the top.