

**Master Syllabus for MATH 1401 (Calculus I)**  
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Kawai

**Preface**

- This syllabus is aligned with *Calculus: Early Transcendentals*, 1e, Briggs & Cochran [Addison Wesley, 2010].

**(#1) Idea of Limits**

- (a) Average velocity; Slope of secant line segment.
- (b) Instantaneous velocity; Slope of tangent line.  
[By Euclidean geometry, tangent lines are only defined on circles. How do we define tangent lines for other curves?]

**(#2) Definition of Limits**

- (a) Preliminary definition for
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L.$$
- (b) Finding limits from a graph.
- (c) Finding limits from a table (numerical).
- (d) Relationship between one-sided and two-sided limits.
- (e) Jump discontinuities.
- (f) Situations where no limit exists. Example:  $f(x) = \cos(1/x)$  as  $x \rightarrow 0^+$ .

**(#3) Computing Limits**

- (a) Limits of linear functions; Direct substitution for continuous functions.
- (b) Limit laws.
- (c) Limits of rational functions; Cancellation rules.
- (d) Limits which require clever techniques. Example: algebraic conjugate.
- (e) Squeeze Theorem. Show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1.$$

**(#4) Infinite Limits**

- (a) Extended real numbers,  $-\infty$  and  $\infty$ .
- (b) Vertical asymptotes.

**(#5) Limits at Infinity**

- (a) Horizontal asymptotes
- (b) Left and right end behaviors.  
[This includes transcendental functions.]

## (#6) Continuity

- (a) Three conditions for continuity.
- (b) General continuity rules (sum, product, powers, etc.).
- (c) Continuity of composite functions and inverses.
- (d) Continuity at end points (of an interval).
- (e) Restate the Intermediate Value Theorem (from precalculus).

## (#7) Introducing the Derivative

- (a) Rate of change  $\Leftrightarrow$  Slope of tangent line.
- (b) At  $x = a$ , we have the slope of the tangent line:

$$m_{\text{tan}} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \quad \text{or} \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}.$$

- (c) In general, at any value of  $x$ , we have

$$f'(x) = \frac{df}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}.$$

- (d) Various notations for evaluating the derivative at a particular value of the independent variable.
- (e) Comparing the graphs of  $f'(x)$  with  $f(x)$ .
- (f) Differentiability implies continuity. [The converse is not true.]

## (#8) Rules for Differentiation

- (a) Constant and Power Rules.
- (b) Multiplicative constants. [Constant Multiple Rule.]
- (c) Sum and Difference Rules.
- (d) Exponential limit:

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = 1 \Rightarrow [e^x]' = e^x.$$

- (e) Higher order derivatives.

## (#9) Product & Quotient Rules

- (a) Product Rule and its application to longer products like  $[fgh]'$ .  
Interesting example:  $e^{2x} = e^x e^x \Rightarrow [e^{2x}]' = 2e^{2x}$ .

- (b) Quotient Rule. [Give a mnemonic?]

It is okay to use Product Rule for everything, but advise students that often, the final answer must be expressed as a single fraction. Thus, the same or possibly more work will be incurred combining the two Product Rule terms together.

- (c) Extending the Power Rule to negative integers.

### (#10) Derivatives of Trigonometric Functions

(a) Show that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 0 \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\cos(x) - 1}{x} \right) = 0.$$

(b) Derivatives of  $\sin(x)$  and  $\cos(x)$ .

(c) Derivatives of  $\tan(x)$ ,  $\cot(x)$ ,  $\sec(x)$ , and  $\csc(x)$ .  
Mention cofunction rules in differentiation.

(d) Higher order derivatives (sine and cosine are cyclic).

### (#11) Derivatives as Rates of Change

(a) Position functions; Average velocity.

(b) Instantaneous velocity; Speed function.

(c) Acceleration [ $s$  is sometimes arc length on a curve].

(d) Growth models.

(e) Average & marginal cost.

### (#12) Chain Rule

(a) This really should be called the “Composition Rule”.

(b) Identifying Outer [ $y = f(u)$ ] and Inner [ $u = g(x)$ ] functions in compositions:  
 $h(x) = f(g(x))$ .

(c) General Power Rule.

(d) Calculating derivatives at a point.  
[ $f'(g(a))$  and  $g'(a)$  must exist.]

### (#13) Implicit Differentiation

(a) Application of Chain Rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [y^n] = ny^{n-1}y'.$$

(b) Power Rule for rational exponents.

(c) Procedures for finding higher order implicit derivatives.

### (#14) Derivatives of Logarithmic and Exponential Functions

(a) Use implicit differentiation on  $x = e^y$  to obtain  $[\ln(x)]' = 1/x$ .

(b) Formulas for bases  $b > 0$ ,  $b \neq 1$ .

(c) General Power Rule for any integer  $n$ .

(d) Logarithmic differentiation.

**(#15) Derivatives of Inverse Trigonometric Functions**

- (a) Use implicit differentiation to obtain  $[\sin^{-1}(x)]' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ .
- (b) Use cofunction rule to obtain  $[\cos^{-1}(x)]'$ .
- (c) Derivatives of  $\tan^{-1}(x)$  and  $\sec^{-1}(x)$ .
- (d) Derivatives of inverse functions [general formula].

**(#16) Related Rates**

- (a) More Chain Rule applications.  
[Implicit differentiation with respect  $t$ .]
- (b) Review procedures for solving related rates problems.

**(#17) Maxima and Minima**

- (a) Absolute extrema.
- (b) Extreme Value Theorem.
- (c) Local extrema.
- (d) Local Extreme Point Theorem (Leibniz); Critical points.
- (e) Procedures for locating absolute extrema.

**(#18) What Derivatives Tell Us**

- (a) Open intervals where  $f(x)$  increases or decreases.
- (b) Identifying local extrema; First Derivative Test
- (c) Concavity and inflection points; Test for concavity.
- (d) Second Derivative Test for local extrema.

**(#19) Graphing Functions [Curve Sketching]**

- (a) Sketching guidelines.
- (b) Sign charts. [Not approved for AP Calculus!]
- (c) Functions with cusps and vertical tangent lines. Example:  $f(x) = x^{2/3}$ .

**(#20) Optimization**

- (a) Objective functions.
- (b) Review guidelines and procedures. Care must be taken when dealing with physical domains.
- (c) Explore technology-based options.

**(#21) Linear Approximation and Differentials**

- (a) Linear approximation to  $f$  at  $x = a$ ; Errors to the approximation.
- (b) Estimating changes with linear approximations.
- (c) Differentials as change.

**(#22) Mean Value Theorem**

- (a) Rolle's Theorem
- (b) Mean Value Theorem and its consequences.
- (c) Functions with equal derivatives differ by a constant.

**(#23) L'Hôpital's Rule [Bernoulli's Theorem]**

- (a) Indeterminate forms:  $0/0$  and  $\infty/\infty$ .
- (b) Rewriting forms:  $(0 * \infty)$  and  $(\infty - \infty)$ .
- (c) Indeterminate forms:  $1^\infty$ ,  $0^0$ ,  $\infty^0$ .
- (d) Growth rates of functions.
- (e) Pitfalls in using l'Hôpital's.

**(#24) Antiderivatives**

- (a) Indefinite integration.
- (b) Power Rule.
- (c) Constant multiple and sum rules.
- (d) Indefinite integrals of trigonometric functions and inverses.
- (e) Introduction to ordinary differential equations.
- (f) Initial value problems for velocity and position functions.

**(#25) Approximating Areas Under Curves**

- (a) Area under a velocity curve; Approximating displacement.
- (b) Approximate areas by Riemann sums.
- (c) Formulas for sums of positive integers.

**(#26) Definite Integrals**

- (a) Net area.
- (b) General Riemann sum.
- (c) Definition of definite integral; Integrable functions.
- (d) Reversing limits; Properties of definite integrals.
- (e) Evaluating definite integrals using limits in Riemann sums.

**(#27) Fundamental Theorem of Calculus**

- (a) Area function (Accumulator function).
- (b) Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and the inverse relationship between differentiation and integration.
- (c) Derivatives of area functions.

**(#28) Working with Integrals**

- (a) Integrating even and odd functions.
- (b) Average value of a function.
- (c) Mean Value Theorem for Integrals.

**(#29) Substitution Rule**

- (a) Change of variable; Changing limits of integration.
- (b) Not all integrals yield to the Substitution Rule.
- (c) Substitution techniques.
- (d) Geometry of substitution.