Section 1. Useful Information

Here is some information you might want if you need to contact me. Feel free to ask questions by email, especially if you can’t make my office hours. Additionally, feel free to ask for a meeting outside of these office hours if you have extra questions, or what-not. Of course, I can’t accommodate all requests, but hopefully we can work something out.

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Office: 618 Hill Center
Office Hours: Fridays, 12:00 PM to 1:40 PM

I have three recitations on Tuesdays. Although it doesn’t come up often, it’s important to know which section you belong to. Below is the schedule for the recitations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>1:40 PM</td>
<td>TIL 209</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>3:20 PM</td>
<td>TIL 209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>TIL 209</td>
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I am not a babysitter, so I will not take attendance. Similarly, all homework that is turned in will be done electronically through MathXL. The other homework is assumed to be done, and it is your responsibility to keep up with it, and the relevant material. That said, to boost attendance and gauge where the class is, there will be a quiz almost every recitation, and these cumulatively comprise 12% of your final grade. The quizzes are mostly going to be 10–20 minutes long, and will just be a few questions going over recent stuff. They aren’t meant to be “gotcha” questions.

§ 1.A. How your grade is determined

There are a few things that I grade, either partially or fully. So I think I owe a bit of an explanation on how I grade, roughly, and how your final grade is determined. In particular, your grade consists of homework, quizzes, two midterms, and a final: the homework is graded by a computer, I grade the quizzes, the midterms are graded by the professor and me, and the final is graded uniformly by all instructors of Math 135.

It’s firstly important to note that there is no curve. Your grade is determined by two factors:
• how difficult the assignment/test was; and
• how well you did on the assignment/test.

1or stuff people have been struggling with.
So if everyone gets 0%, everyone will walk home with an ‘F’. If everyone gets 100%, everyone will walk home with an ‘A’. This implies that class placement—i.e. where you are in relation to others in the class—is irrelevant to your grade. Don’t compare yourself to your peers; it doesn’t matter.

Beyond this, consider the following remarks on each of the factors in your final grade.

• Exams: worth a grand total of \(20 + 20 + 43\)% = 83% of your final grade.
• Homework: do not ignore the non-MathXL assignments listed here. MathXL is in effect MyMathLab, if you’ve heard any... uh... stories about that piece of software. It’s graded immediately by a computer, so talk to the professor for any grading issues there. You at least get multiple attempts. Also, the course ID for that is not the same as the temporary access code (apparently it’s a common mix-up).
• Quizzes: the grade is mostly a quick check to see if you understand. View these as practice for the midterms to help get you accustomed to that exam atmosphere. I will post solutions to the quizzes, so be sure to look at them.

Section 2. The RU Ready Test

This is basically an attempt to make sure students who are unprepared for Math 135 do not take and fail the course. It really is a benefit to you to not cheat, as it tells you how much you need to catch-up (if at all). There were somewhere around five-hundred failed grades once because of ill-prepared students. So this is a bit of an experiment to ensure that doesn’t happen. The test is in effect pass/fail: there is no gradation between the lowest passing score and the highest.

§ 2.A. What if you fail?

Failure here is not really a bad thing, since it can prevent a failure for the whole course, which can’t really be removed from your transcript. If you fail, but continue with the course, there will be a 25 point penalty on the first exam (i.e. the first midterm). The following are some options available to you if you fail, or do poorly on the test.

• Drop to Math 115 (precalculus) before the September 20th, which won’t appear on your transcript.
• Go to the Math and Science Learning Center, open everyday (except Saturdays).
• Come to office hours, email questions, and generally make sure you are learning!
• You can retake the test twice (once per week) in week 2 and week 3.

What you need to fill out:

• Take out RUIDs
• NAME (official Rutgers name)
• RUID (in STUDENT #),
• CODE (the exam "form" version),
• and EXAM (to answer the survey question about their major).
• bags underneath desks

Start times for each section: 2:15; 3:55, and 5:35. Hand things out 5 min before.