Math 21 Course Policy Summary

Stanford University Math Dept.
Winter Quarter, 2018
By now you should have found the course website: math21.stanford.edu.

Everything about the course will either be posted to that website, or quickly accessible from it.

A longer Course Policy Document (CPD) is posted on the course website, this presentation is merely a summary of the most important points!
The Course Staff

Dr. Schaeffer

Dr. Solis

Calista Bernard

Ben Lim

Adva Wolf

The bookstore’s version is missing a page. (Why? Unknown.) It will be available on the course website.

You will (almost) never need a calculator.

Why? Usually you won’t need to write your answers as a decimal—The answer “ln(2)” is much better than “0.69314718056” because it is exact and conveys meaning.

The use of electronics (including cellphones and calculators) is prohibited during exams.
The circumstances under which you would need to email any of us should be *rare*.

All administrative concerns are handled by Dr. Schaeffer.

If you have a homework question, ask it on **Piazza** (this is way better than emailing us).

We may post hints and clarifications to homework on Piazza as well, so make sure you’re paying some attention to it.

Homework will be submitted and graded using **Gradescope**. More info is posted on the course website.

Exams will also be graded using Gradescope.

We will not be using Canvas.
Course Calendar

▶ During a typical week there are three lectures (M/W/F), one discussion (Tu), and one homework (due Fri. at 11 AM).
▶ Regular office hours will be posted to the course website.
▶ The midterm exams will be held 7:00–8:30 PM on Wed., January 31th and Wed., February 28th.
▶ The final will be held 7–10 PM on Mon., March 19th.
▶ There are no lectures or office hours on Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Jan. 15th) or Presidents’ Day (Feb. 19th).
▶ Office hours are typically not held on exam days.
Homework

- Homework: **It’s important! Do it.**
- HW is due at 11 AM on Fridays (via Gradescope) every week except Weeks 4 and 8.
- Assignments will usually consist of both book problems and supplemental problems that we write ourselves. **The supplemental problems are NOT optional.**
- Start working on the assignment, or at least read the problems early! It helps immensely.
- Your homework scores will be recorded using Gradescope.
- Assignments are submitted and graded through Gradescope. More info on the course website.
Grades

▶ All work will be graded on Gradescope.
▶ Your lowest homework score will be dropped.
▶ If you think there’s a problem with how something is graded, there’s a form for that (linked from the course website).
▶ Your numerical grade is 2% Engagement/Attendance, 18% Homework, and 80% Exams.
  ▶ Your Exams grade is not simply a weighted average of the midterms and the final. Instead, it is apportioned by *section* of the course material—this is meant to work to your benefit.
  ▶ More info can be found on page 6 of the longer CPD.
▶ Letter grades are assigned using 90/80/70/60 cut-offs.
▶ If you’re taking the course CR/NC, CR is C– or above.
▶ Grades will not be curved.
Extra Help

If you need extra help beyond class, office hours, and Piazza, there are various avenues open to you:

▶ Stanford VPTL provides free drop-in and appointment tutoring. Links are on the course website.
▶ Student-athletes may have access to additional tutoring / academic support. Ask your team’s staff for details.
What to Do, Week 1

- Come to class!
- If you aren’t enrolled, fill out the *Enrollment Problems Form*.
- Make sure you’re registered with Piazza and Gradescope for the course. (Filling out the Enrollment Problems Form will give you instructions on how to sign up even if you aren’t enrolled.)
- Fill out the athletics survey, if you’re an athlete.
- If you have an OAE accommodation or a known exam conflict, email Dr. Schaeffer ASAP.
- Math Dept. policy states that all students must take each exam on the same day, with very few exceptions. (See the CPD for more details.)