**Calculus Course Syllabus**

**School Year**: 2012-2013 Phone: 803-7715

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Course website: http://teachers.sheboygan.k12.wi.us/sdamrow

## **Course Overview**

Welcome to AP-Calculus. The instruction and learning in this course is designed to prepare each student for the Advanced Placement – Calculus AB exam. This is equivalent to first semester college calculus at most 4 year schools. To be successful in calculus and other upper level math courses you will be asked to think. Mathematics is not a class of regurgitation, instead its class on problem solving and applications. Calculus will ask you to combine your knowledge from previous courses with the concepts you learn in this course to solve a variety of problems. Most of you will find this to be much more challenging than previous math courses. Positive results may require an extensive amount of time, practice, and discipline.

## **Course Evaluations**

**Opportunities:** (**70%)** Your course grade in calculus will be determined by what you know. On the last day of the week you will have an “opportunity” to show me what you learned throughout the week and the course. You will be assessed accordingly. These “opportunities” will be a combination of the material from that week as well as material from earlier in the course. Learning is ongoing and does not start and end with each lesson, chapter, or quarter.

In order to be fair to the class as a whole, students who are not in class the day of the “opportunity” and choose to take it at a later time will take an alternate version. At the end of the semester, students who have not had to take any alternate versions to date will have the opportunity to omit their lowest score from their grade.

**Daily Assignments: (5%)**. It is important to stay current on all of your assignments. A list of book assignments will be handed out at the beginning of every chapter. The majority of the assigned problems are odds and the answers can be found in the back of the book. Every minute of class time is important, so you will be expected to correct your assignments prior to class and be prepared with questions ahead of time. You can find full solutions to all our daily assignments on the course website. You will be expected to come to class prepared everyday. This means always having your assignments with you. Students who are not disciplined enough to keep up to date on assignments will find it very difficult to be successful in this course.

**In Class Work / Participation: (10%)** Most students learn math best by actually doing the math. We will do various in class assignments through out the semester. Your effort and accuracy on these assignments will be assessed in order to help you improve your understanding. These assignments will vary. They may include group activities, 5 minute check ups, as well as review assignments. They are designed to give the teacher immediate feedback on how well students are keeping up with the course and thus being able to actively participate.

**Semester Final:** (**15%)** The class will conclude with a cumulative final exam for the semester. The exam will be similar to the multiple choice portion of the AP – calculus exam.

**Please turn over for more information...**

**Course Grades:**

89.5% ≤ x ≤ 100% A

79.5% ≤ x < 89.5% B

69.5% ≤ x < 79.5% C

59.5% ≤ x < 69.5% D

 x < 59.5% F

**Technology:** The use of technology is integrated throughout the course to provide a balanced approach to learning calculus that involves algebraic, numerical, graphical and verbal methods. Students will be expected to use multiple representations to investigate and solve problems. Course evaluations will vary between calculator and non-calculator. This coincides with the AP exam, as well as differences among college calculus courses.

**Note to Students:** It is very important that you feel comfortable asking questions. Part of the preparation for college is helping you become comfortable advocating for yourself. You have a better feel for your understanding than anyone else. We do not need to rush through the material in this course. You will have the opportunity to ask questions in class on most days. You are welcome to come in for extra help whenever needed as well. You will be evaluated in this course on a regular basis, so it is important that you get your questions answered as soon as possible. If you are having difficulties finding a time that works, please ask me after class or send me an e-mail and we will set something up.