



Syllabus

[Alignments](#)

Math 118 (Fall 2023)

Fundamental Principles of Calculus

The content of this syllabus is subject to change.

Lecture	MWF 9–9:50am @ ZHS 163	MWF 10–10:50am @ DMC 156
Lecture ID:	39429R	39435R
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Instructor:	Christian Geske (geske@usc.edu)	

Informal Prerequisites

Algebra is an essential ingredient to the problems and concepts encountered in this course. Essential skills include: comfort with basic arithmetic; facility with exponents, logarithms, and radicals; the ability to solve equations using a variety of techniques; the ability to solve systems of equations; facility with functions, function notation, and graphs.

Without the basics it will be challenging to keep up in the course. If you are concerned that you are rusty in any of the skills listed, then

please work on reinforcing them. You could do this by taking advantage of academic support resources at the university or by using an external resource like Khan Academy.

Course Content

For a detailed description of course content, please see the Daily Schedule in the Content Tab.

Course Materials

Non-Graphing Calculator (recommended).

On quizzes and tests you will be allowed to use a non-graphing calculator. You will not need a non-graphing calculator and will be able to earn full marks without one.

WileyPlus Access (required).

WileyPlus provides access to our textbook and online homework platform. To register for WileyPLUS, do not go to the WileyPLUS website. Instead, just go to the "WileyPLUS" folder on our Blackboard page and click on any of the WileyPLUS links. You'll be prompted to register for online-only access, which includes an online textbook. You do not need to buy a physical textbook.

Exams

	Time	Place
Midterm 1	Mon Oct 2 @ usual classtime	TBA
Midterm 2	Mon Nov 13 @ usual classtime	TBA
Final Exam	Wed Dec 6 @ 2–4pm	TBA

No Makeup Exams.

Midterms. Accommodations for time conflicts for midterms will generally not be granted, except for a very limited number of reasons, including participating in a USC athletic competition. To request an accommodation for a time conflict, you must contact the instructor at least two weeks before the scheduled examination.

Final Exam. This will be a cumulative exam, written by the math department. It is university policy that no student may take this exam early or be allowed to skip it.

Guidelines. You will allowed to use: writing utensils and a non-graphing calculator. You will not be allowed to use: books, notes, phones, computers, tablets, or graphing calculators.

Re-Score Requests. If you think that a problem on your exam was scored incorrectly, then you may consider requesting that your problem be re-scored. A request must be made to the instructor within 72 hours after you have received your exam. Your problem will be regraded from scratch, and the new score will be final.

Online Homework

Homework will be distributed through the WileyPlus online platform. It will be due every week on Thursday @ 11:59pm unless otherwise specified.

Extensions. You will be allowed three (3) 24-hour extensions on assignments. To receive a 24-hour extension, you must email a request to your instructor. No other extensions will be granted.

Drops. The lowest two (2) homework scores will be dropped

Guidelines. Although we encourage you to discuss homework with your peers, your final submissions must be completed on your own, without access to a peer or their work. If in doubt, you should be able to explain your thought process in detail if requested.

Grades. All homework assignments will be weighted equally, regardless of the number of points they are worth. E.g. an assignment out of 6 points is worth the same as an assignment out of 10 points.

Quizzes

You will have weekly in-person quizzes on Thursdays in discussion section. Quizzes will be roughly 15 minutes each.

Guidelines. You will allowed to use: writing utensils and a non-graphing calculator. You will not be allowed to use: books, notes, phones, computers, tablets, or graphing calculators.

Drops. Your lowest two (2) quiz scores will be dropped.

Retakes. You will have the opportunity to retake a modified version of a quiz of your choice at two (2) specific times during the semester: each discussion section prior to a midterm. **A given quiz can only be taken again one time.** For example you can take Quiz 3 and then decide to retake it, but you cannot later retake the retake.

Discussion Section

Attending and participating in discussion section is essential for success in the course. Discussion section will serve two purposes.

First: you will have the opportunity to work through problems relevant to the quiz and homework in a predesigned worksheet. You will work in groups with the assistance of a teaching assistant. You are expected to engage in productive discussions with your peers about these problems.

Second: you will take your quizzes in discussion section.

Grading Policy

Your overall grade for the course is determined by your homework scores, quiz scores, and exam scores. Final percentages will be given by the maximum of the following three calculations.

	Calculation 1	Calculation 2	Calculation 3
HW	15%	15%	15%
Quizzes	15%	15%	15%
Midterm 1	20%	0%	25%
Midterm 2	20%	25%	0%
Final Exam	30%	45%	45%

Because the final exam is composed by the department and not your instructor, its difficulty can be unexpected. Therefore it is in your best interest that the weight on the final exam be lower.

Class Recording

Lectures will be recorded regularly and those lectures posted on Blackboard.

Academic Support

Office Hours

These are an essential resource that often go underutilized. We encourage you to attend them to receive help on any aspect of the course. Instead of struggling endlessly on your own with a particular problem or concept, save some time and stop on by!

Math Center

The USC Math Center (KAP 263) is a place to go if you want help with your math classes. Please visit the Math Center [website](#) for more information

Academic Integrity

The University of Southern California is foremost a learning community committed to fostering successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Academic misconduct is in contrast to the university's mission to educate students through a broad array of first-rank academic, professional, and extracurricular programs and includes any act of dishonesty in the submission of academic work (either in draft or final form).

This course will follow the expectations for academic integrity as stated in the [USC Student Handbook](#). All students are expected to submit assignments that are original work and prepared specifically for the course/section in this academic term. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s). Students suspected of engaging in academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Other violations of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

The impact of academic dishonesty is far-reaching and is considered a serious offense against the university and could result in outcomes such as failure on the assignment, failure in the course, suspension, or even expulsion from the university.

For more information about academic integrity see the [student handbook](#) or the [Office of Academic Integrity's website](#), and university policies on [Research and Scholarship Misconduct](#).

Course Content Distribution and Recording Policies

USC has policies that prohibit recording and distribution of any synchronous and asynchronous course content outside of the learning environment.

Recording a university class without the express permission of the instructor and announcement to the class, or unless conducted pursuant to an Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) accommodation. Recording can inhibit free discussion in the future, and thus infringe on the academic freedom of other students as well as the instructor. ([Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook](#), page 13).

Distribution or use of notes, recordings, exams, or other intellectual property, based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study. This includes but is not limited to providing materials for distribution by services publishing course materials. This restriction on unauthorized use also applies to all information, which had been distributed to students or in any way had been displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the internet, or via any other media. ([Living our Unifying Values: The USC Student Handbook](#), page 13).

Students and Disability Accommodations

USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. [The Office of Student Accessibility Services \(OSAS\)](#) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at osas.usc.edu. You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at osasfrontdesk@usc.edu.

Support Systems

[Counseling and Mental Health](#) - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

[988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#) - 988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

[Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services \(RSVP\)](#) - (213) 740-9355(WELL) – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender- and power-based harm (including sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking).

[Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title IX \(EEO-TIX\)](#) - (213) 740-5086

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

[Reporting Incidents of Bias or Harassment](#) - (213) 740-5086 or (213) 821-8298

Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions to the Office for Equity, Equal Opportunity, and Title for appropriate investigation, supportive measures, and response.

[The Office of Student Accessibility Services \(OSAS\)](#) - (213) 740-0776

OSAS ensures equal access for students with disabilities through providing academic accommodations and auxiliary aids in accordance with federal laws and university policy.

[USC Campus Support and Intervention](#) - (213) 740-0411

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

[Diversity, Equity and Inclusion](#) - (213) 740-2101

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

[USC Emergency](#) - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

[USC Department of Public Safety](#) - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-1200 – 24/7 on call

Non-emergency assistance or information.

[Office of the Ombuds](#) - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)

A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

[Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice](#) - (323) 442-2850 or otfp@med.usc.edu

Confidential Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

