Math 124-Autumn 2004

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Office Hours: TBA

Course Format: MWF at this time in this room with Prof. Collingwood. Tuesday and Thursday you meet with a Teaching Assistant, according to the time and location listed in the time schedule.

Course Website (Very Important): All homework assignments, worksheets and archived old exams and finals are located on the course website:

http://www.math.washington.edu/~m124/

Course Packet (Optional): You can purchase printouts of all homework assignments, worksheets and selected final exams at the Copy Center in the basement of communications. This is simply a convenient way to get all the key course materials; you can ALWAYS print these materials yourself off the course website.

Grades: Homework = 16%; Quizzes = 8%; Worksheets = 16%; 2Midterms = 30%; Final Exam = 30%.

Your grade is determined by how you do relative to the class as a whole. All math 124 classes will take the same final exam. The median grade is usually 2.7-3.0. If the whole class does particularly well (or badly) the median will move up (or down). Grades will be based on total points earned. Here are comments on each of these course grade components:

- **Homework:** Homework is collected on Friday at the start of lecture class, unless otherwise indicated. The first homework assignment is due THIS Friday, October 1: Problems #4,5,6 off of Homework sheet #1. I will always clearly announce in class what problems are due. Problems will be from the weekly homework assignments posted on the course website. Since we are starting classes on a Wednesday, this will mean you often have problems due from a couple different homework sheets. It is perfectly alright to work with others on the homework, just make sure that you understand what you are doing before you hand it in. No late homework is accepted, but we drop the low score at the end of term in case you miss an assignment for some reason. If you know you will be away on a homework due date, it is ok to have a friend turn in your assignment; you can also turn it in early if you wish.

- **Quizzes:** We will have 2 quizzes on these dates: October 7 and November 4. There are no makeup quizzes. If you miss a quiz for a valid excuse, the weight of the final exam in computing your grade is increased by 4% and the weight of quizzes decreased by 4%. (Valid excuses are things such as physician documented illness, etc.)

- **Worksheets:** Each Tuesday, you will focus on a worksheet. Bring this with you. It is available online or in the course packet. Since we began Autumn quarter on a Wednesday, your first worksheet will be on Tuesday October 5 and will be the worksheet for “Week 2”. We will spend the entire period working in groups on the worksheet. If
groups finish early, they continue to work on problems from the homework. This is a very important time for learning. The instructors will have a chance to talk with each of you and give you individual suggestions. If you know how to do the problems, you should explain your reasoning to the others in your group. You will receive a grade on the worksheet of 0, 1 or 2: If you attend your worksheet session and make an effort on the worksheet, you will receive 2 pts. If you attend but leave early or do not participate actively, you will receive 1pt. If you miss a worksheet session, you will receive 0 pts. There are no makeup worksheets. We will drop the low worksheet score to compute your worksheet grade. This component of the course is not meant to be burdensome. If you attend the worksheet sessions and participate, you will be assured of 100% for this portion of your grade (which is 16% of your final grade).

- **Midterms:** We will have two midterms: October 19 and November 16. These are given in TA section with 80 minutes of time. The exams are written to take one-hour so that time pressure is hopefully eliminated.

- **Final Exam:** Saturday, December 11. See the course website for more information; more details will be announced later in the term. Please note this is on a SATURDAY. Leaving town early for the holiday is not a valid excuse for taking a makeup final exam. Final exams are never given early.

**Calculators and Notes:** A scientific calculator is required on all exams and the final exam. However, graphing calculators are NOT ALLOWED on the exams/final exams. An adequate scientific calculator can be purchased for $10. No notes are allowed on quizzes or midterm exams. One page of notes, 8.5 x 11 inches, handwritten on both sides, is allowed on the final exam.

**Math Study Center:** A very good place to get help with just about anything to do with calculus. Located in CMU B-014 with extensive hours of operation.

**Course Objective:** Math 124 is a first quarter course in Calculus. We will focus entirely on what is usually called “Differential Calculus of a single variable”. Our goal is to master certain computational skills AND learn how these tools can be used to solve a variety of application problems. Please make sure you read the handout “A Note to Math 124 Students from the Department of Mathematics”. This note is in the Course packet and on the homepage of the course website.

**More about your Instructor:** I have been at the UW since 1987 and I am a Professor in the department of Mathematics. My current research specialty is Computational Molecular Biology. You can learn more about my research and other interests at my website:

http://www.math.washington.edu/~colling/

This quarter, I view teaching this course as my #1 job. I will do my best to be very accessible and will strive to make the course as interesting as possible.