

# AP Calculus AB Application

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The Advanced Placement Program in Calculus enables a student to take a **college level** course while still in high school. This means that the course and the exam are not easy; therefore much more is expected from the student. Please read the following expectations for the course. Both the student and parents must sign that they understand the expectations before the student will be allowed to take the course.

## Expectations:

### 1. Homework/Pace/Grading:

- The College Board sets the AP curriculum nationally, so that all courses are equal to a college level course. Therefore, I cannot vary from the pace, which is rather quick.
- Students must be willing to work diligently on all assignments. Homework will average 1 hour per night.
- Attendance in each class is vital.
- Students involved in an abundance of extra activities, including after school jobs, may find it difficult to keep up.
- Students should also consider the degree of difficulty of their other courses.
- It is expected that the students will do their assignments the day on which they are given. I will answer some homework questions at the beginning of each class the day after homework is assigned, and then only on a limited basis. Students will have to make an appointment with me for additional help if questions become too lengthy or frequent.
- AP style questions will frequently be given as homework. These problems involve recalling math skills from previous chapters or previous math courses. You must work on organizational skills for these problems.
- Quizzes will be given frequently on problems, definitions, and conceptual understanding. These will be announced ahead of time.
- Tests will be given at the conclusion of each chapter. The tests are generally difficult and often take two class periods to complete. (A Non-Calculator and a Calculator Part on most tests)

### 2. The AP Exam:

- All students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam to fulfill the course requirements.
- The exam is a national exam that is administered by the Educational Testing Service of the College Board.
- It is given nationwide during the first 2 weeks of May. Thus, all material must be covered by this date; we cannot get behind.
- The AP Calculus exam is difficult and requires a firm grasp on the techniques, procedures and rules which we will learn as well as how Calculus is applied in every-day problems.
- All techniques, formulas, laws and rules must be memorized and understood. No formula sheet will be given with the AP exam.

3. Calculators:

- Students **MUST** have a TI-83 or higher. Many of the problems in the homework, tests and the AP exam require the use of a graphing calculator.
- I will be using a TI-84 Plus C Silver Edition.
- Students **may** also purchase a TI-89 Titanium or a TI-*n*spire CAS.
- It will be assumed that the student already has a firm grasp on how to use their TI calculator. Any extra Calculus-related methods will be learned in class throughout the year.

4. Summer Project:

- Each student will be required to complete a two-part summer project before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of class.
- **Any student who fails to complete both parts of the project by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school will be dropped from the class.**
- Part I of the project consists of a lengthy review of Algebra II and Pre-Calculus skills. This packet should be picked up from Mr. Flick before you leave for the summer. It will take 10-15 hours to complete.
- Part II of the project will require that you write reflections on two chapters as an introduction to Calculus. (one page for each chapter, 12 font New Times Roman, 1.5 spacing)
- Further details and guidelines about this project will be given out once accepted.

If both the student and the parents understand these expectations and are committed to the effort necessary for succeeding in AP Calculus, please sign below and return to Mr. Flick by 3-1-19.

Student (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Student (Sign) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent (Sign) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Teacher use only: To ensure you have the best chance of succeeding in AP Calculus AB, you are required to have the recommendation of both your Algebra II and your PreCalculus teachers. There will also be an Entrance Exam given to those considering taking Calculus and that score will be a determining factor in the decision.

Algebra II Teacher

Recommendation score from 1-10  
(10 being extremely well qualified.)

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PreCalculus Teacher

Score on Entrance Exam

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