## Syllabus, MAC 2233 (Business Calculus)
## Section U03, Spring 2018 (10:00–10:50 pm MWF in ARE 121)

**Instructor:** Idris Mercer
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**Office:** DM 438D
**Office hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11–12 and 1–3.

**Outside help (tutoring, etc.)**
See http://mathstat.fiu.edu/useful-information/math-resources/
(that link is also on my webpage)

**Textbook:** *Calculus*, Hoffman, Bradley, Sobecki, and Price, 11th edition

**Course components:** There will be homework to be handed in on paper, four tests that take place during the lectures, and a final exam.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Homework | 10% |
| Test #1, **FRI** JAN 26TH (Sections 1.5–1.6, 2.1–2.2) | 15% |
| Test #2, **MON** FEB 12TH (Sections 2.2–2.5, maybe 3.1–3.2) | 15% |
| Test #3, **WED** MAR 7TH (Sections 3.1–3.5, 4.1, maybe 4.2) | 15% |
| Test #4, **FRI** APR 13TH (Sections 4.3–4.4, 5.1–5.3) | 15% |
| Final Exam, date to be announced (everything) | 30% |

**GRADE SCALE:**
Numerical scores will be converted to letter grades using the following scale.

| Score | 92–100 | 89–91 | 86–88 | 83–85 | 80–82 | 75–79 | 65–74 | 55–64 | < 55 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Grade | A | A– | B+ | B | B– | C+ | C | D | F |

Depending on class performance, this correspondence between scores and letter grades may be adjusted slightly. However, it will likely stay very close to the numbers given in this table.

**IMPORTANT DATES** (in addition to the test dates listed above)

- Monday January 15th: No class (Martin Luther King Day)

- Tuesday January 16th: Last day to drop/withdraw with tuition refund

- Monday March 12th to Saturday March 17th: Spring Break

- Monday March 19th: Last day to drop with a DR grade (but no refund)

**CALCULATOR USE:** Calculators of any kind may **NOT** be used on any of the tests. There are a wide variety of different calculators and this is the simplest way of ensuring that all students are on an even playing field. Problems on tests will emphasize reasoning over calculation and will tend to use round numbers.

**MISSED TESTS:** Due to scheduling constraints, if you miss a test for a **documented** medical, professional, or personal reason, it may not be possible to allow a makeup test. Instead, your score on the missing test (again, if you have an **excused, documented** absence) will either be replaced with your average score on the other tests, or your score on the final exam.

**KEYS TO SUCCESS IN THIS COURSE:**

- You are graded on *performance*, not *effort*. If you have the prerequisites for this course, then you have the ability to succeed in it, but it may require time and discipline and hard work.

- Algebra is a prerequisite for this course (MAC 1140 or equivalent). You need a genuine knowledge of rules for correct algebraic manipulation, and a familiarity with graphs of common functions.

- Come to every class, take notes, and don't fall behind. If you miss class, find out what you missed *promptly*. Borrow notes from a classmate. Don't let one absence turn into two or three or four.

- If you fall behind or experience other difficulties, do something about it *as soon as possible*. Being *slightly* behind is easier to fix than being *very* behind.

- Frequent regular practice is better than cramming. Try to break the course material into small pieces, and work on those *small* pieces *frequently*. (You may need to review material from an earlier course. Even if you *think* you understand the prerequisites, you may need to develop a more *thorough* understanding.)

- Actively engage with the material. Nobody can learn mathematics by just watching somebody else do it. You have to try the problems yourself. This is sometimes frustrating, but actively wrestling with problems is the best way to learn how to do them. If you get frustrated or stuck, remember to break problems into *small* steps.

Best wishes for a successful semester!