Math 111: Calculus I
Syllabus, Spring 2013

Professor: **Dr. Jason Parsley**
Office: 330 Manchester Hall
Office hours: MTuW 10-11, Tu 3-4 (334), W 3:30-4 (in lounge), Th 3-4 (111), 4-5; also by appointment
Email: `parslerj AT wfu.edu`

1. Course Time & Location: MWF 2-3:15, Manchester 125

2. Text: Stewart, *Single Variable Caculus*, 7th ed., chapters 1-5

3. Course software: We will use **Sakai** for course content, grades, etc. All students must buy a **WebAssign** license – this is our online homework system. All students will participate in **ALEKS** (see below) and must buy a license.

4. Flexible Scheduling: We will meet 75 minutes each day, which is $\frac{9}{8}$ as much as we should. In other words, we will skip a class roughly every three weeks – 4 total classes. Here are the days we will not meet:

Feb. 8, March 8, April 12, one more day (*tba*)

5. ALEKS: Many calculus problems require good precalculus skills. Chapter 1 contains review material on functions and then describes limits. The ALEKS software is designed to review your precalculus and trigonometry skills. You must attend one of the mandatory ALEKS info sessions: Tu/W/Th, Jan. 22/23/24, 7pm, Manchester 016 – see handout. This session will explain how the assessments will work and the option of registering for Math 105L to earn course credit for ALEKS work.

Your final assessment is worth 10% of your 111 grade. Students who reach 100% proficiency before the final assessment will earn extra credit – one gold star per day (with a max of 5 stars).

To encourage you to spend time with ALEKS, I offer further extra credit. If you have raised your score by 5% by 2pm on Feb. 8, you earn a gold star; each 5% increase by this date earns another gold star.

6. Homework: Homework comes in two flavors in this course. There will be WebAssign problems most days, due by the start of the next class.

There will also be written problems due at the start of class on Fridays. **No late work will be accepted** without prior approval. Three of these will be designated as 'Quiz problems' ... one of the three will form our weekly quiz on Wednesday. The written homework should be neatly written using proper English grammar. We will grade typically three problems per week from these written problems, worth 5 points each; problems which are ungraded are checked for 'completeness' – whether you have made an honest attempt; these are worth 2 points.

Each assignment will include one or more 'Challenge problems'. These are optional. Solving one will earn you one or more gold star(s). However, to receive an `A` in the course, you must solve at least two of these correctly in the semester.

Academic integrity is something I take quite seriously. Here are my expectations: you may discuss course material freely with each other. The WebAssign and written assignments that you submit must be your original work, i.e., when writing your solutions, you should be working independently, not together.

7. Quizzes: We will have a weekly quiz at the start of class on Wednesdays. It will be drawn from one of the three 'Quiz problems' on the homework, possibly with constants changed. **There will be no makeup quizzes.**

8. Exams: There will be three midterm exams and a cumulative final exam. If you miss an exam without my prior approval, it will count as a 0.

- 1st midterm: **Feb. 13**
- 2nd midterm: **Mar. 22**
- 3rd midterm: **Apr. 17**
- Final Exam: **F., May 3, 9am - noon**

The top two students in the course (not counting any extra credit) will be exempted from taking the final exam.

9. Questions from the reading: I really want you to read the textbook. To enforce this, you are required to submit a question to me before each class from the reading for that day. We will use a Google Form ... the questions are due by 9am on class days. The question can be about a previous lecture but cannot be about homework. If you absolutely have no questions, tell me something neat about the reading. Feel free to ask multiple questions. I'll address some of these in class; if I don't get to yours, ask me in office hours or after class.

If you forget to submit a question, your participation grade will lower by 3 points. (Everyone gets three freebies).

10. Help: The Math Center at Wake Forest is available to help you with calculus. They will not help you with any written homework questions, except for the 'Quiz problems'. They will explain concepts, work similar problems with you, and answer any questions you have.

In addition, you should utilize my office hours and email me. There are also 111 study sessions held most weeknights, 7-9pm.

11. Grade Calculation:

Homework	20%
Quiz	5%
Participation	5%
ALEKS	10%
Midterm Exam 1	12%
Midterm Exam 2	12%
Midterm Exam 3	12%
Final Exam	24%

12. Gold Stars: Throughout the semester, I will award 'gold stars' to recognize achievements. These function as extra credit; the current exchange rate, which may fluctuate, is roughly

$$\texttt{20 gold stars} \approx \texttt{1.00 point on your final average}.$$

You may earn these for things like solving challenge problems, finding errors in the text, saying particularly insightful comments in class, and otherwise stellar behavior. I reserve the right to award these in many different, unspecified ways.

There is only one way that you can lose stars – technology violations. If your cellphone rings during class or you are using your laptop or other device during class, kiss one of your stars goodbye. (Being a mathematician, I believe in the existence of negative numbers and know how to use them.)

If you have a disability which may require an accommodation for taking this course, please contact the Learning Assistance Center (758 5929), then contact me, within the first 2 weeks of the semester.