NetMath Online Math Courses, University of Illinois

Course Syllabus for **MATH 220** (Calculus I)

**Course description:** A first course in calculus and analytic geometry; basic techniques of differentiation and integration with applications including curve sketching; antidifferentiation, the Riemann integral, fundamental theorem, exponential and circular functions.

**Credit:** 5 hours. Prerequisite: MATH 016; or MATH 012 and 014. Credit is not given for both MATH 220 and either 221 or 234.

**Required Material:** Please Visit - [https://cas-ile.illinois.edu/](https://cas-ile.illinois.edu/)

**Syllabus:**

1. **Growth**

1.01 Growth


1.02 Natural Logs and Exponentials

*Mathematics:* How to write exponential and logarithm functions in terms of the natural base e. While line functions post a constant growth rate, exponential functions post a constant percentage growth rate. How to construct a function with a prescribed percentage growth rate.

*Science and math experience:* Recognition of exponential data, exponential data fit, carbon dating, credit cards, compound interest, effective interest rates, financial planning, decay of cocaine in the blood, underwater illumination, inflation.

1.03 Instantaneous Growth Rates
Mathematics:
The instantaneous growth rate \( f'[x] \) as the limiting case of the average growth rates
\[
\frac{f[x+h]-f[x]}{h}
\]
What it means when \( f'[x] \) is positive or negative. Calculation of \( f'[x] \) for
functions \( f[x] \) like \( x^k, \sin[x], \cos[x], e^x \) and \( \log[x] \). Why \( \log[x] \) is the natural logarithm and
why \( e \) is the natural base for exponentials. Max-min.

Science and math experience:
Relating the plots of \( f[x] \) and \( f'[x] \). Using a plot of \( f'[x] \) to predict the plot of \( f[x] \). Visualizing
the limiting process by plotting \( f[x] \) and
\[
\frac{f[x+h]-f[x]}{h}
\]
on the same axes and seeing the
plots coalesce as \( h \) closes in on 0. Spread of disease model. Instantaneous growth rates in
context.

1.04 Rules of the Derivative
Mathematics:
The derivative as the instantaneous growth rate. Chain rule. Product rule as a
consequence of the chain rule. Instantaneous percentage growth rate \( \frac{100f'[x]}{f[x]} \) of a
function \( f[x] \).

Science and math experience:
Another look at why exponential growth dominates power growth and why power growth
domimates logarithmic growth. Logistic model of animal growth. The idea of linear
dimension and using it to convert a model of animal height as a function of age to a model
of animal weight as a function of age. Learning why the adolescent growth spurt is
probably a mathematical fact instead of a biological accident. Compound interest. Making
functions with prescribed instantaneous percentage growth rate.

1.05 Using the Tools
Mathematics:
What it means when \( f'[x]>0 \) for \( x=a \).
Why \( f[x] \) is not as big (or small) as it can be at \( x=a \) unless \( f[a]=0 \).

Science and math experience:
Why a good representative plot of a given function \( f[x] \) usually includes all \( x \)'s at which
\( f'[x]=0 \). Max-Min in one or two variables. Using the derivative to get best least squares fit
of data by smooth curves. Fitting of space shuttle O-ring failure data as a function of
temperature and using the result to explain why the Challenger disaster should have been
predicted in advance. Data fit by lines and by Sine and Cosine waves. Optimal speed for
salmon swimming up a river. Designing the least cost box to hold a given volume. Analysis
of an oil slick at sea. How tall is the dog when it is growing the fastest? Analysis of what
happens to \( x^e e^x \) as \( x \) advances from 0 to \( +\infty \).

1.06 The Differential Equations of Calculus
**Mathematics:**
The three differential equations
\[ y'[x] = r y[x], \]
\[ y'[x] = r y[x] \left( 1 - \frac{y[x]}{b} \right) \]
\[ y'[x] = r y[x] + b \]
and their solutions.
The meaning of the parameters \( r \) and \( b \) in the three differential equations. Why it's often a good idea to view logistic growth as toned down exponential growth.

**Science and math experience:**
Models based on these differential equations. Why radioactive decay is modeled by the differential equation \( y'[x] = r y[x] \). Logistic versus exponential growth. Biological principles behind carbon dating. Growth of U.S. and world populations: Malthusian versus logistic models. Calculation of interest payments resulting from buying a car on time. Managing an inheritance. Wal-Mart sales. Pollution elimination, data analysis, speculating on why dogs and humans grow faster after their birth than they are at the instant of their birth, but horses grow fastest at the instant of their birth. Newton's law of cooling. Pressure altimeters.

1.07 The Race Track Principle

**Mathematics:**
The race track principles:
If \( f[a] = g[a] \) and \( f'[x] \leq g'[x] \) for \( x \geq a \), then \( f[x] \leq g[x] \) for \( x \geq a \).
If \( f[a] = g[a] \) and \( f[x] \) is approximately equal to \( g'[x] \) for \( x \geq a \), then \( f[x] \) is approximately equal to \( g[x] \) for \( x \geq a \).
If \( f[a] = g[a] \) and \( f'[x] = g'[x] \) for \( x \geq a \), then \( f[x] = g[x] \) for \( x \geq a \).
Euler's method of faking the plot of a function with a given derivative explained in terms of the race track principles.
Euler's method of faking the plot of the solution of a differential equation explained in terms of the race track principles.

**Science and math experience:**
Using the race track principle to explain why, as \( x \) advances from 0, the plots of solutions of
\[ y'[x] = r y[x] \] and \[ y'[x] = r y[x] \left( 1 - \frac{y[x]}{b} \right) \]
will run close together in the case that \( y[0] \) is small relative to \( b \). Why \( \sin[x] \leq x \) for \( x \geq 0 \) and related inequalities. Estimating how many accurate decimals of \( x \) are needed to get \( k \) accurate decimals of \( f[x] \). The error function. Calculating accurate values of \( \log[x] \) and \( e^x \).

1.08 More Differential Equation

**Mathematics:**
Plots of numerical approximations to solutions of first order differential equations. Qualitative analysis of first order differential equations and systems of first order differential equations.
Science and math experience:

2. Accumulation

2.01 Integrals for Measuring Area
Mathematics:
Integrals defined as area measurement as done in E. Artin’s MAA notes written in the 1950’s. Approximations by trapezoids.

Science and math experience:
Integrals of functions given by data lists. Using known area formulas for triangles, trapezoids and circles to calculate integrals. Odd functions. Trying to break the code of the integral by taking selected functions g[x], putting

\[ f[x] = \int_{a}^{x} g(t) dt \]

and plotting \( \frac{f[x + h] - f[x]}{h} \) and \( g[x] \).

on the same axes for small h’s. Plotting \( f[x] = \int_{a}^{x} \cos(t) dt \) and guessing a formula for \( f[x] \).

Plotting \( f[x] = \int_{a}^{x} \sin(t) dt \) and guessing a formula for \( f[x] \). Estimating the acreage of farm field bordered by a river.

2.02 The Fundamental Formula
Mathematics:
If \( f[t] \) is given by \( f[x] = \int_{a}^{x} g(t) dt \) then \( f'[x] = g[x] \).

The fundamental formula \( f[x] - f[a] = \int_{a}^{x} f(t) dt \).

Science and math experience:
Relating distance, velocity and acceleration through the fundamental formula. Getting the feel of the fundamental formula by using it to calculate integrals by hand. Relating \( \int_{a}^{x} g(t) dt \)
to the solution of the differential equation \( y'[x] = g[x] \) with \( y[a] = 0 \).
Very brief look at the "indefinite integral" \[ \int g(t) dt \]
Measuring area between curves. The error function, \( erf[x] \), and other functions defined by integrals. Measurements of accumulated growth. Coloring ceramic tiles.

2.03 3D Measurements

*Mathematics.*

Measurements based on slicing and accumulating: area and volume; density and mass. Measurements based on approximating and measuring: arc length. Measurements based on the fundamental formula: accumulated growth.

*Science and math experience:*