

**MVLA
2025-26
COURSE INFORMATION SHEET**

Course Title: Calculus
School: Los Altos High School
UC/CSU requirement: Yes/Yes
Textbook and/or other learning resources:
Bittenger, Calculus and its Applications, 2008

Student Learning Outcomes:

This class is a non-Advanced Placement(AP) course. The major topics will include limits, differentiation, integration, finding maxima and minima, partial derivatives, decay and growth functions, and probability and statistics. A couple examples of the applications portion of the course are using calculus to investigate the amount of bacteria accumulation over time, the age of an artifact based on carbon dating, and in construction, determining the smallest amount of material needed to complete a certain project. Lecturing, class discussions, small group work, and student's individual work in class will be the main modes of instruction.

Assessment and Grading ([BP 5121](#) / [AR 5121](#)): To ensure that every student has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, the course instructors implement aligned grading practices and common assessments with the same frequency.

1. Grading categories and their percentage weights:

Tests	55%
Quizzes	15%
Homework	10%
Class engagement/ Group work	10%
Final Exam/Final Projects	10%

2. Achievement evidence collected within each grading category:

Semester grades will be determined on the basis of performance on tests, quizzes, homework, classwork, and the semester final exam.

3. Grading scales:

A	90 to 100%
B	80 to 89%
C	70 to 79%
D	60 to 69%
F	below 60%

4. Homework/outside of class practices ([AR 6154](#)):

Daily homework assignments are due at the beginning of the following class and will be checked for effort and completion. If a student has an excused absence, daily homework will be accepted with one extra day allowed for each day of the absence.

The student will be expected to do daily assignments. Daily assignments include homework and classwork. All homework should be completed before class begins. In addition to daily assignments, periodic quizzes will be given. A test will be taken at the end of each unit. A notebook is recommended to preserve all assignments, tests, and class notes. Possession of a TI-83, TI-84, or TI-89 graphing calculator is highly recommended.

5. Excused absence make up practices ([Education Code 48205\(b\)](#)):

Students who know they will be missing class ahead of time must inform the instructor at least two days prior to schedule make-up of the work. All missed assignments are due within the same number of days as the absences. If a student has an excused absence on the day of a quiz, a portion of the test score for that particular unit will be used in place of the missed quiz. Unexcused absences are not covered under the above policy and will result in a score of zero

6. Academic integrity violation practices ([LAHS Academic Integrity Policy](#)):

Honesty, trust and integrity are vital components of the education process. The Governing Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. Students and families should understand and act upon the values of academic integrity and should encourage the highest standards of academic behavior from themselves and their peers.

It is assumed that all work completed for a class is original work created for that class, for a specific assignment. Please refer to the Academic Integrity policy in the student handbook. For categories A and B, the "V" will be worth zero with no opportunity of point recovery. For violations in category C students will receive a failing grade in the course.

Below are examples of each category:

Category A: Minor Violations

This category involves violations related to smaller assignments such as classwork and homework.

Examples:

- Using an online answer key (either teacher-made or from a third party) and claiming the work as one's own.
- Using technology in an unethical manner to complete assignments, including but not limited to cell phone applications (such as PhotoMath, Mathway, Symbolab, etc.), use of Ai technology, and sharing pictures via social media websites.

Category B: Major Violations

This category involves violations related to major grade book entries such as quizzes, tests, projects, and final exams.

Examples:

- Sharing or requesting any information from a test with another student who has or has not taken the test.
- Unauthorized use of technology during an exam (e.g., cell phone, smart watch, etc.).
- Violating any assessment rule provided by the teacher within the parameters of the assessment.

Category C: Severe Violations

This category involves severe violations that compromise the integrity of the educational process.

Examples:

- Accessing a teacher's gradebook to alter grades.
- Stealing any assessment from the class that is not authorized by the teacher to leave the classroom.

7. Late work practices:

Some credit will be given for any completed late homework assignment if it is turned in by the chapter test.

8. Extra credit practices:

No extra credit will be given for this course.

9. Additional grading practices:

Students will be expected to collaborate during classwork. Group work is to be considered an essential part of the learning experience, and that grades earned through group participation are to reflect an individual student's achievement on a designated academic standard and to be awarded to individuals rather than to groups of students.

Instructors email addresses:

Matthew Chaffee matthew.chaffee@mvla.net

Additional information:

Student's progress/grades will be updated on the Student Information System (sis.mvla.net/parents) frequently. Unit tests happen about every 3-4 weeks, homework assignments are entered weekly(approximately) and quizzes are entered weekly(approximately).