

# Math 151 Course Syllabus: Spring 2021

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<b>Synchronous online class meetings: (encouraged but not required)</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 am – 11 am Via Big Blue Button in JetNet
<b>MyMathLab Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.mymathlab.com">www.mymathlab.com</a>
<b>MyMathLab Course ID:</b>	Course ID: laird76678 See "Accessing My Math Lab" instruction sheet
<b>Office Hours:</b>	by appointment

## Course Materials:

- MyMathLab Student Access: contains electronic textbook (part of Access plan; look for e-mail from Brytewave to access your materials)
- MAT 151 Coursepack: contains course notes and worksheets (part of Access plan; look for e-mail from JC bookstore regarding picking up your paper packet)
- Graphing Technology: Desmos (free online at Desmos.com) and/or graphing calculator such as TI-84 plus
- Computer or Tablet with webcam and mic: required to do homework, to participate in class, and for proctored testing
- Scanner or scanning app: If you don't have access to a physical scanner, you can use a free app on your phone such as Adobe Scan, Cam Scanner or Genius Scan. These allow you to use the camera feature of your phone to record an image of a physical document and will convert to a pdf file. Check out this [tutorial video](#) a colleague of mine made about Adobe Scan.

Course Pre-requisites: MAT 141 or an equivalent pre-calculus course.

Course Outcomes: Students who are successful in MTH 151 will be able to:

- Find limits using graphical, numerical and analytical methods
- Find derivatives of algebraic, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions
- Solve problems involving applications of the derivative
- Perform integration including techniques of substitution and numerical integration
- Solve problems involving application of the integral to finding area

General Education Outcomes: The Board of Trustees has determined that all JC graduates develop or enhance certain essential skills while enrolled in the college. MAT 151 contributes to the following General Education Outcomes:

GEO 3: Demonstrate computational skills and mathematical reasoning

## **Course Requirements:**

**Learning the Material:** There are three ways you can get the information and instruction you need in this class.

- 1. Live Online Class Sessions:** While not required, I highly encourage you to participate in our interactive class sessions via Big Blue Button. We will use our class time to answer questions, work on problems in the coursepack, and preview some of the video material and even to begin work on some of the worksheets that are assigned. This is going to feel as close as possible to a traditional, face-to-face class...or at least as close as I can make it!
- 2. Recordings of Online Class Sessions:** I know not everyone will be able to attend the live online sessions, so a second option is to watch the recordings of these sessions (posted in the original class session area in JetNet, usually a few hours after class ends). Although you don't have the opportunity to ask questions in 'real time' this way, you will benefit from the questions asked by your classmates and from the cadence of the delivery in a live session – most students say it feels more like a 'real' class than the video lectures.
- 3. Video Lectures:** These are lectures I have pre-made for each section; they were not done for a live group of students and are therefore a bit less dynamic than the recordings of class sessions. They also don't include any Q & A from homework. There are a couple of reasons you may want to use these videos, however. The first is in a situation where you want to work ahead in the course, perhaps due to a planned absence. The second is to get lectures to cover the sections of the coursepack listed as 'On Your Own' in the course calendar, or to finish sections we don't quite get done in class.

**Practicing the Material:** You've probably heard the phrase "practice makes perfect", and though perfection isn't required, it is certainly true in math that practice is essential to your learning and understanding the material! There are two sources of practice in this class, both of which contribute to your final grade in the course.

### **1. My Math Lab Homework:**

- These assignments must be done on a computer with internet access using MyMathLab (<http://www.mymathlab.com>). A separate document is provided with specifics.
- Homework will be due as posted in the course calendar and in My Math Lab. Late homework will be penalized at the rate of 25% until the end of the unit. Once a unit ends, homework for that unit can no longer be done for credit.
- You have an unlimited number of tries to do the homework before you submit it (up until the due date). So do them until they are right and you will have full credit!
- If you cannot figure out a problem, try the various help features in My Math Lab. Note that one of these allows you to send the problem to me using the "Ask My Instructor" feature – if you do this, I will work the problem during our next class session.

### **2. Worksheets:**

- The worksheets are part of your coursepack. Not every worksheet in the coursepack will be assigned; your instructor will clearly identify those that need to be completed and handed in.
- Worksheets must be submitted by the stated due date, and will not be accepted late. You will be asked to hand in your worksheets using the following procedure:

- ✓ Complete the assignment by hand (pencil and paper); be sure to write clearly and legibly.
  - ✓ Convert your assignment to a pdf. You can scan it if you have access to a desktop scanner, or you can scan and convert to a pdf using your phone and one of the free scanning apps.
  - ✓ E-mail the scanned file to yourself and save it on your computer
  - ✓ Locate the assignment in JetNet, and click on the link. Submit the assignment by dragging and dropping the pdf file into the designated area.
- ONLY worksheets submitted to our JetNet course in pdf format will be graded.

**Demonstrating Mastery of the Material:** Ultimately, you need to show that you have learned the course content! This is done via four tests in the course. Because this is a mastery demonstration (or summative assessment) note that all work on the four tests must be entirely your own. Use of tutors, group work, electronic websites that do problems, etc. is not allowed during tests.

1. **Take-Home Style Tests:** Unit 1 and Unit 3 will end with take-home tests. You will be able to take these tests on your own with your notes available, but you will be asked to certify that your work is entirely your own, and you have not used outside help to complete the tests. These tests have time limits, so it is important to study and prepare for them just as you would for a test you might take in a live classroom.
2. The midterm (Units 1-2) and final (Units 1-4) exams are proctored, closed-book tests that must be taken while being monitored via a web camera. Check the course calendar for specific dates and times. Exams not taken by the due date will receive a grade of zero except under extreme, well-documented circumstances arranged *in advance* of the due date with the instructor.

**Grading Information:**

A 2.0 or "C" is a passing grade. Only courses with passing grades count toward graduation. Other colleges transfer in only courses with passing grades. Many financial aid sources, including most employers, require passing grades. Additionally, earning less than a 2.0 in a class results in being unable to use the class as a pre-requisite for the next class in a sequence.

<u>Grading Scale:</u>		<u>Grading Policy:</u>
90 -100%	4.0	
85 - 89%	3.5	Online Homework : 15%
80 - 84%	3.0	Classwork Sheets: 15%
75 - 79%	2.5	Test 1: 15%
70 - 75%	2.0	Midterm: 20%
65 - 69%	1.5	Test 3: 15%
60 - 64%	1.0	Final Exam: 20%
50 - 59%	0.5	
0-49%	0.0	

Throughout the course, your grades will be stored in your JetNet Gradebook. Note that My Math Lab grades will be transferred from MML to JetNet at the end of each Unit.

## **Communication:**

There are a number of different communication modes you should be aware of:

- My primary form of individual communication with you will be your Jackson College e-mail. You should check your JC e-mail at least once a day.
- You can communicate with me via my JC e-mail as well ([lairdkristik@jccmi.edu](mailto:lairdkristik@jccmi.edu)). On business days if you send me an e-mail before 3 pm you will normally hear back from me the same day; e-mails received after that time will be answered no later than the following business day.
- You will also receive personalized feedback from me on graded assignments in JetNet. You can view this feedback by looking at the JetNet gradebook line item for the specific assignment.
- Finally, if you would like to have a real-time conversation with me, please don't hesitate to let me know. I can set up a phone call or Zoom session for us so we can address any questions or concerns you might have.

## **Class Policies:**

**Attendance Policy:** Class attendance, while not required in an online class, is very helpful. It is one of the leading contributors to overall success in the course.

- Our live online sessions will help you focus on the most important course material as well as give you the opportunity to ask questions and get clarification of challenging problems.
- As per college policy, I will be monitoring active participation in class. I define participation as the submission of assigned work in the course (worksheets, online homework, tests).
- If you fail to participate in the course for a period of one week or more, meaning you have not turned in any of the material due that week, you will be dropped from the class. If you have an emergency situation that prevents you from participating, be sure to notify me so that we can work out arrangements and you are not dropped from the class.

**Important Dates:** Be sure to check out the JCC Academic Calendar for important dates such as holidays with no classes, last day to withdraw, etc.

**Extra Credit Policy:** There will be no opportunities for extra credit. Your grade is based on your performance in class, not on extras. This is a mathematics department policy.

**Incompletes Policy:** (Excerpt from JCC Policy) "A student may request an incomplete from the instructor. The incomplete will be granted only if the student can provide documentation that his or her work up to that point is sufficient in quality, but lacking in quantity, due to circumstances beyond the student's control. Furthermore, a written plan for making up the missing work within one semester must be completed by the student. Final determination of whether an incomplete will be given is the instructor's decision."

**Academic Honesty Policy:** Items assigned to you as an individual must be done by you - reflecting your own thought processes, not that of someone else. Note that using student groups, tutors or web-based help systems (such as Chegg, etc.) to assist with/complete test problems IS considered cheating. If I suspect you of academic dishonesty, I will follow JCC's Academic Honesty Policy and take appropriate action up to and including assigning a failing grade for the paper, project, report, exam, or the course itself (whichever I deem necessary).

***Classroom Behavior Policy: "We know what a person thinks not when he tells us what he thinks, but by his actions." - Issac B. Singer***

**1. Be Responsible:** for your work, for your learning, for your behavior in class, etc.

The online homework and worksheets are going to require great levels responsibility on your part. You will need to stay on top of your schedule and your life to make sure that all coursework is done in a timely fashion.

**2. Be Respectful:** of other students, of the instructor, of the material, of yourself

Give your best effort. Remember that when you help someone else, you are learning material better yourself. Recognize that while grades matter, learning is actually more important than grades.

***Academic Integrity:*** This is something we all need to take very seriously. In an online environment, it is easy to convince yourself that you are doing the work when you are actually simply relying on something that is supposedly helping you, but in reality is keeping you from learning. The biggest culprits in this are:

- Over-reliance on help features; the 'View an Example' feature in My Math Lab is a prime example. If you are going through and doing all your homework by clicking on the example for every problem before trying to figure it out yourself, you are not engaging your brain in the learning process and you won't be able to do the problems when test time rolls around. Use this a last resort, not as the first thing you try!
- Online homework 'helpers' – which are really the opposite of helpful. If you have made use of various systems in the past (Chegg, WolframAlpha, etc.) this is the time to STOP. These do absolutely nothing to help you really practice and learn and are very harmful, because they become a crutch. When that crutch is removed during testing, it leads to test anxiety and poor test performance.
- **One last note about online 'help' sources. Using any of these during a test is cheating.** It is often quite obvious to me when a problem has been done by one of these homework help systems – I have seen them many times, and recognize them. Any student found to have used a help source on a test will be given a zero for the entire test (first offense) or a failing a grade for the course (second offense).

All of this is not to say that help isn't available to you during this course. It absolutely is! Read on....

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# Where to Get Help...

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**Office Hours:** Please set up a time for a virtual meeting with me if you need questions answered. We can meet by phone or by Zoom to address any questions or concerns. The most important thing is to ask for help as soon as you think you need it – don't wait until problems become large!

**Center for Student Success:** The Center for Student Success has free tutoring available for students enrolled in Math 139. You can get help with worksheets, MyMathLab homework, preparing for exams and more. Find out about online tutoring at <https://www.jccmi.edu/center-for-student-success/tutoring-center/>

**MyMathLab:** All of your My Math Lab homework has help features included. There are also videos, extra problems, sample exams, lecture notes, PowerPoint lectures and more available in MyMathLab. It's a great resource!

**Each Other:** Get a regular study group. Write down names and numbers of your peers and call on each other when needed!

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Remember, your attitude, self-management skills, and personal responsibility play a vital role in your success. A positive approach combined with a good work ethic will bring the greatest success. Be the creator of your own success! I look forward to working with you this semester.