Math 1180-002 Syllabus
College Algebra
Spring 2014

Time: Wednesday 9:10-10:30 AM (Subject to change)
Location: LCB 115

Instructor: Kyle Gaffney
Office: LCB 318 (Office hours will be held in LCB 115)
Office Hours: TBA
Email: gaffney@math.utah.edu
Lab Webpage: http://www.math.utah.edu/~gaffney/1180.html

Course Goals: This course is designed to teach you the essentials of Calculus while targeting the material and examples to information necessary to life sciences. Therefore, you are not only learning Calculus, you will also be learning many of the applications of Calculus to biological fields. The course will cover most of chapters 6-8. You are expected to read each section that is covered.

Additionally in the lab section we will use R to further explore and help visualize the topics discussed during lecture. Occasionally some extensions of the lecture material will be presented during the lab time.

Course Text: "Modeling the Dynamics of Life" by Frederick R. Adler (Third Edition)

Programming: In the lab we will use a programming language called R. R has the advantages of being not only free, but also the computational tool of choice for biologists. Biologists use R to help to visualize and analyze data as well as to perform simulations and test hypotheses that would be impractical in the lab.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every class and lab session. If it is necessary to miss a class, it is the student's responsibility to make-up the missed material. To many of you R will be your first exposure to programming, and to those of you who have used a program like Matlab before, R has nuances which can be confusing to learn without guidance. Additionally the lab is designed to provide a mirror to the topics covered in lecture, reinforcing the ideas visually in ways that can't be done easily by hand.

Homework: Weekly homework will be assigned at the end of each lab session and be due at the beginning of the following lab. Late homework will not be accepted. If for some reason you are unable to attend a lab session it is your responsibility to find a way to get me your homework before the start of the lab. This can be done through email, by giving your assignment to a classmate to turn in for you, or by dropping a hard copy in my box in the lounge in JWB. As these are programming assignments be sure to submit any code you have with your results, it is nearly impossible for me to give partial credit if I can't see what you did.

Important Dates: Class will meet every Wednesday from Wednesday, January 8th until Wednesday, April 23rd with the following exception:

-No class on Wednesday, March 12th (Spring Break)

Some other important dates are:

Last Day to drop the course: Wednesday, January 15th
Last Day to add the course: Tuesday, January 21st
Last Day to withdraw from the course: Friday, February 28th

Grades

The lab portion of the class is worth 20% of your final grade. Your grade for the lab will consist entirely of your grades on the lab assignments.

External Course Resources

Math Tutoring Center:

Drop in, sit down, and if you have a question, someone will come by who can help you. There are also study areas free of tutors, a computer lab, group study rooms available through reservations, and group tutoring sessions that can be arranged to meet at a regular time. Located on 1st Floor of JWB or LCB. Open 8am-8pm MTWH; 8am-6pm F.

For more personalized attention, you may also try the ASUU Tutoring Center, SSB 330 (http://www.sa.utah.edu/tutoring). A list of private tutors is also available from the Math Department office. Also, don't hesitate to come to office hours—that is what they are there for.

Classroom Policies:

Students are expected be respectful while taking this course. This includes not leaving or packing up before class is dismissed, or social chatting with your friends in class. Cell phones, iPods, and laptops must be turned off before the start of class. As this is a lab section and we will be using computers it is essential that you follow the lectures in R, do not be checking on your facebook page or playing computer games during class. Action will be taken to terminate any disrespectful behavior, either to other students or the instructor.

ADA statement:

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be made for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. Please contact me at the beginning of the semester to discuss any such accommodations for the course.