

**Mathematics Department**  
**Brooklyn College, City University of New York**  
**Math 1231 (Applied Calculus)**  
**4 hours, 4 credits**

The order in which the topics are presented is left to the instructor's discretion.

1. Introduction to functions

- Definition of a function: domain, range, and graph
- Composition of functions
- Transformations of functions
- Linear functions
- Quadratic functions
- Polynomial and rational functions
- Exponents
- Exponential function
- Logarithmic functions
- Examples of functions from economics: demand, supply, price, revenue, cost and profit
- Applications in Economics: market equilibrium
- Applications in Business: break-even analysis
- Applications in Finance: continuous compounding of interest; present value

2. Limits and continuity

- Intuitive definition of limit
- Properties of limits
- Limits of polynomials and rational functions
- Limits at infinity and infinite limits
- One sided limits
- Vertical and horizontal asymptotes
- Continuity and the intermediate value theorem
- Extreme values (relative and absolute)
- Continuity and the extreme value theorem

3. The derivative

- Average rate of change
- Definition of derivative
- Interpretation: instantaneous rate of change; slope of the tangent line to the graph of a function
- Relative and percentage rates of change
- Differentiation rules
- Product, quotient, and chain rules
- Higher order derivatives
- Marginal analysis, linearization, and differentials
- Implicit differentiation, isoquants, and related rates

4. Applications of the derivative

- Critical points of a function, and the closed interval method
- Intervals of increase and decrease and the first derivative
- First and second derivative tests for relative extrema
- Intervals of concavity, points of inflection, and the second derivative
- Curve sketching and applications
- Applied optimization
- Marginal analysis criteria for maximum profit and minimum average cost
- Price elasticity of demand, levels of elasticity, and effect on revenue

## 5. Integration

- Antiderivatives and the indefinite integral
- Basic differential equations
- The definite integral and its geometrical interpretation
- The fundamental theorem of Calculus
- Net change theorem
- Integration by substitution
- Integration by parts (optional topic)
- Separable differential equations (optional topic)

## 6. Applications of integration

- Area between curves
- Net excess profit
- Wealth distribution and the Gini index
- Average value of a function
- Future and present value of an income stream
- Consumers' willingness to spend
- Consumers' and producers' surplus

## Some suggested textbooks:

- Business Calculus, by Calaway, Hoffman and Lippman (Zero cost textbook)
- Calculus for Business, Economics and the Social and Life Sciences, by Hoffman, Bradley, Sobecki and Price
- Applied Calculus for Business, Economics and Finance, by Gordon, Wang and Materowski