



Course Syllabus: Calculus I
McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering
Math 1634 Section 101
Fall 2026, Aug. 24 – Dec. 11

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Dawn Slavens

Office: Bolin Science Hall – 122D

Office Hours (located in Bolin Science Hall – 122D):

- **Mondays:** 10:30 – 11:30 AM & 1:30 – 2:30 PM
- **Tuesdays:** 1:30 – 2:30 PM
- **Fridays:** 10:00 – 11:00 AM

The following office hour will be held in TASP (located on the first floor of the library)

- **Wednesdays:** 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

I am also available to meet outside these times by appointment, either in person or via Zoom.

Students may schedule an appointment by:

- **Stopping by my office** (when I am not in class or in a meeting, I may be available to meet on the spot), or
- **Emailing me** to arrange a specific day and time to meet.

Office phone: (940) 397-4013

E-mail: dawn.slavens@msutexas.edu

Class Meeting Days, Times, Location

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 8:00 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.

Classroom: Bolin Science Hall - 143

Catalog Information

Description: Differentiation of functions of one variable with applications, integration including simple substitution and numerical evaluation, and applications of integration.

Prerequisite(s): Math 1433 or Math 1534 with a grade of C or better.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required textbook: Calculus, Early Transcendentals, 9th Edition, by Stewart, Clegg and Watson. E-book accessed through D2L as part of Follett Access. On the right side of the D2L Course Home page click on Bookstore "My Materials" for the etext. Charges apply to your MSU account for course materials. The bookstore will send an email with an opt-out option. If you opt-out, you will lose access to the required course materials and will need to find another way to gain access to the materials. The online materials also include access to MathGPT.ai, the homework platform for this course.

Additional Information: This course covers the content in Chapters 2–5 of the text. The content within Chapter 1 consists of prerequisite mathematics (content from College Algebra and Trigonometry, or Precalculus) for the study of calculus. Students are responsible for reviewing the content of Chapter 1 on their own.

Calculator Requirement: A non-CAS scientific calculator that does not give exact irrational outputs is recommended for this course. Certain quizzes and exams (or portions of exams) will be **required** to be completed either **without a calculator** or **without a graphing calculator**. A CAS calculator may not be used on any test or quiz. A non-CAS scientific calculator that gives exact irrational outputs may also be prohibited on some tests. Any student that attempts to use a non-approved calculator on an assessment will receive a zero on the assessment. Further, additional penalties, as outlined under the Academic Misconduct Policy, may apply. A TI-30XIIS is an appropriate scientific calculator for this class and can be generally purchased for less than \$20.

Attendance Policy

1. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Any student who is late or who leaves early may be counted as absent. Students are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class period. Leaving in the middle of class to go to the restroom, get a drink of water, etc. should be avoided except in a rate emergency.
2. After a student has attained four absences (excused or unexcused), ***each additional unexcused absence will result in a 1% deduction to the student's semester course average.** (For example, a fifth absence that is unexcused will result in a loss of 1% from the student's final average. A fifth and sixth absence, each being unexcused, will result in a loss of 2% from the student's final average, etc.)
3. Any student who misses **more than eight classes (excused and unexcused combined)** may be instructor dropped from the course with a grade of F or WF.

4. The best ways to ensure Dr. Slavens considers an absence as excused are
 - a. Provide a doctor's note for a non-routine appointment. (Routine appointments, such as dentist appointments, will not be considered excused. So do not schedule routine medical appointments during class.)
 - b. Provide a university signed letter or memo confirming participation in an athletic or academic event
 - c. Provide documentation of a mandatory military service obligation
5. If you do not notify Dr. Slavens of your absence in a reasonable amount of time before the class you miss, then generally your absence will not be excused. If circumstances beyond your control make it impossible to notify her before class, you must notify her as soon as reasonably possible after the missed class period for the absence to be considered for an excused absence.
6. Any student who violates the Electronic Device Policy (such as using a cell phone or wearing earbuds) may be counted absent.
7. A student who is counted absent will receive a 0 on any work submitted during that day's class.

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to do the following two things.

1. You need to get notes from another student for the day(s) you missed. Dr. Slavens does not give copies of notes to students.
2. See Dr. Slavens before the next class for any handouts from the day(s) you missed. You can stop by her office or come up and see her before she starts class. Dr. Slavens will not stop to give out handouts from previous days once class starts.

Grading

Table 1: Weight allocated to each assessment

Assessment	Weight
MathGPT.ai homework	8%
In-class worksheets (3) based on MathGPT.ai assignments	12%
Quizzes and other Graded Submitted Work	6%
Exam 1	12%
Exam 2	12%
Exam 3	14%
Exam 4	14%
Cumulative Final Exam	22%

Table 2: Percentages for final grade

% of Total Points	Grade
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0-59	F

Exam and In-Class Worksheet Dates

The dates below are subject to change with three days advanced notice.

In-class worksheet: Sept. 15

Exam 1: Sept. 17

In-class worksheet: Oct. 9 and/or Oct. 12

Exam 2: Oct. 13

In-class worksheet: Nov. 2 and/or Nov. 3

Exam 3: Nov. 5

Exam 4: Dec. 3

Final Exam (firm date and time): Wednesday, Dec. 9, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Absences on in-class worksheet days: If you miss class without an approved excuse on a day when an in-class worksheet is given, you will receive 0% on that worksheet. If your absence is approved, you may be able to schedule an appointment with your instructor to complete an oral assessment over the material covered in the worksheet. The oral assessment will serve as the basis for your grade on the worksheet.

Exam Days: Special rules for exam days will be announced in class and posted in D2L as part of Dr. Slavens' **Exam Environment and Device Policy**. These rules are intended to protect the integrity of exams and ensure a fair testing environment for all students.

Make Up Exam Policy

Make-up exams are not generally given; however, such exams may be given for an absence that is a result of a documented medical or personal emergency. If an exam is going to be missed due to an approved university activity, the student should request to take the exam early. For missed exams, timely notification (for emergencies, on or before the scheduled day of the exam, and for approved university activities, three weekdays prior to the scheduled day of the exam) is necessary to receive consideration to make up the exam or take the exam early. Once graded exams have been returned to the class, which usually occurs one or two class meetings following the day of the exam, it will no longer be possible to make-up a missed exam. No student will be allowed to make up more than one exam during the semester. No exams may be made up due to a student scheduling a vacation on a day when classes are in session.

Homework

Online homework (accessed through D2L) will be assigned for most sections covered in the textbook. This homework will be completed through **MathGPT.ai**, a digital learning platform that includes built-in **AI learning support**. The **built-in AI learning support** is intended to provide personalized tutoring that coaches students through their math challenges and promotes genuine learning rather than simply providing solutions.

Students are to keep a MathGPT.ai assignment notebook and include in the notebook their work for solving the problems assigned in MathGPT.ai assignments. The notebook should be organized by assignment name and problem numbers and include the initial problems and the student's work for solving the problems.

For some assignments completed in MathGPT.ai, the instructor will require students to submit their written work through D2L. A grade may be assigned based on the submitted work. If a student does not submit the requested written work for all problems completed within the MathGPT.ai assignment, the grade assigned by the automated grading of the MathGPT.ai assignment may be substantially reduced by the instructor.

In addition, some homework problem sets or additional review practice problem sets may be assigned from the textbook. You may find it helpful that the etext within D2L contains solutions to the odd numbered exercises. I have also made available, at the reservation desk in Moffett Library, a physical copy of the student solution manual for the required textbook.

Important Note Regarding Academic Integrity

The use of any tool that generates complete or near-complete solutions - including fully worked steps, final numeric answers, or solutions substantially like assigned problems - constitutes unauthorized assistance. Academic misconduct penalties will apply if any work is submitted that is obtained through unauthorized assistance.

Students whose MathGPT.ai Homework Average is more than 20 percentage points higher than their test average may be required to submit (through D2L) their written work for past and future MathGPT.ai homework assignments. The grade assigned by the automated grading of the MathGPT.ai assignment may then be changed to a grade determined by the instructor based upon the student's submitted work.

Homework Engagement Requirement

Students who receive more than ten homework scores below 50% in MathGPT.ai may be instructor-dropped from the course with a grade of WF or F. A homework score below 50% is generally interpreted as a lack of sufficient effort or engagement with the assignments.

If a student makes a good-faith attempt to complete *all* problems on a homework assignment but earns a score below 50%, the student is encouraged to meet with Dr. Slavens to discuss the assignment and underlying course content. Following this meeting, and based on Dr. Slavens' assessment of the student's understanding, the homework score may be adjusted to 50% or higher.

This opportunity is available only to students who demonstrate effort by completing the assignment while it is open and who meet with the instructor within one week of the assignment's original due date.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given frequently during the first half of the semester and then less frequently during the second half of the semester. Makeup quizzes are not given for any reason. When a quiz is missed due to an excused absence, the instructor may excuse the student from the quiz. When a student is excused from taking a quiz a "no score" is given instead of a score of zero.

Note Taking

Students are expected to take notes during class lectures. Good notes can be a helpful resource for you as you are working assigned homework problems and as you are preparing for quizzes and exams. When a portion of class lecture is given through videos (referred to as video supplements), while watching the videos you are expected to take good notes. I may collect any assigned video supplement lecture notes and use them as a basis for a graded assessment in the category titled Homework and Other Classwork.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. On D2L, I will post the following:

- Announcements and occasional reminders
- Links to occasional assigned video lectures
- Your grades on assessments
- Attendance (specifically absences and tardies)
- Links to assigned homework

I recommend the mobile Brightspace Pulse App. It will allow you to have quick access to anything posted within D2L.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Teaching and Learning During Inclement Weather Days

If class is cancelled due to a campus closure resulting from inclement weather, expect me to post within D2L, by 11 AM, a video over the topics planned to be covered on the day of the closure. There will be no change in the class schedule, except for possibly a slight extension for completing assigned homework.

Academic Misconduct Policy

All work that you submit for this course must be your own. Submitting work that has been generated, in whole or in part, by AI tools, websites, solution manuals, or any external sources—unless explicitly authorized—is a violation of academic integrity. Violations of academic integrity are considered incidents of academic dishonesty.

Each incident of academic dishonesty will be reported to the university according to the university's *Academic Dishonesty Policy & Procedures* located in the student [handbook](#).

In this course, the possible sanctions for an incident of academic dishonesty are:

- Receiving a zero on the homework, in-class worksheet, quiz, or exam.
- Receiving a zero for an entire assessment component of your grade (see table 1 within the Grading section of this syllabus).
- Receiving an F in MATH 1634
- Receiving an F in MATH 1634 that will remain permanent on your transcript and within your MSU GPA.

Assessment of Core Objectives

Samples of students' work from embedded final exam questions will be used in the assessment of critical thinking, communications skills and empirical and quantitative skills.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Develop solutions for tangent and area problems using the concepts of limits, derivatives, and integrals.
2. Draw graphs of algebraic and transcendental functions considering limits, continuity, and differentiability at a point.
3. Determine whether a function is continuous and/or differentiable at a point using limits.
4. Use differentiation rules to differentiate algebraic and transcendental functions.
5. Identify appropriate calculus concepts and techniques to provide mathematical models of real-world situations and determine solutions to applied problems
6. Evaluate definite integrals using the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.
7. Articulate the relationship between derivatives and integrals using the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Electronic Device Policy

Earbuds and other headsets are to be removed, and cell phones silenced and stored in a bag or placed on your tabletop with screen side down, at the beginning of class. Other electronic devices (laptops, tablets, smart glasses) must also be appropriately stored prior to the start of class. A student with a cell phone or other device that is not appropriately stored, or a student with earbuds or a headset in or over their ears, will be in noncompliance with this policy and will be counted absent on the day of noncompliance. Students that continue to be noncompliant with this policy may be referred to the Dean of Students Office and/or the student may be withdrawn from the class by the instructor.

Academic Support Resources

When you need help with this course, you are encouraged to use the following resources:

1. Your professor
 - Office hours are listed on page one of this syllabus.
 - When attending office hours for additional support with course content, you are expected to bring your class notes and all relevant work completed on the topics for which assistance is sought.
2. The *Tutoring and Academic Support Program (TASP)*,
 - TASP is located on the first floor of Moffett Library and offers free tutoring in mathematics as well as other disciplines.
 - Additional information about services and schedules is available by visiting the TASP location or by searching "TASP" on the MSU website.
 - Tutoring services are available from Aug. 31 through Dec. 3.

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

University Policies

Use of Tobacco Products

Midwestern State University seeks to provide a safe, healthy, pleasant environment for its faculty, staff, and students. To this end, the use of tobacco products, including smoke and smokeless tobacco, and the advertising, sale, free distribution, and discarding of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities and in all university vehicles. The policy extends to faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, and visitors. Information related to the Use of Tobacco Products policy is available in the Midwestern State University Operating Policy 74.08, Use of Tobacco Products.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.