

# MAT 285: Calculus for the Life Sciences I

## M002 — Fall 2021

### Instructor Information

*Name:* Jianqing Jia  
*Email:* jjia10@syr.edu  
*Office Hours:* TuTh 12:30PM – 1:30PM via Zoom

### Class Information

*Dates:* Aug 30 – Dec 10  
*Time:* MoWeFr 11:40AM – 12:35PM  
*Instruction Mode:* In person

### Grading

The course grade is determined by the following components:

Homework	10%
Quizzes	10%
Test 1	20%
Test 2	20%
Test 3	20%
Final Exam	20%

Grades and important announcements will be posted on Blackboard. Please check Blackboard regularly to ensure the grades have been recorded correctly. You must bring clerical errors to the instructor's attention within one week of the date an assignment was returned. No changes will be made after this time. You are also responsible for any announcements about changes to the course schedule, the exam schedule, or the course requirements.

### Grade Scale

Final grades will be given according to the following scale:

Raw Grade $x$	Letter Grade	Raw grade	Letter Grade
$93 \leq x \leq 100$	A	$77 \leq x < 80$	C+
$90 \leq x < 93$	A-	$73 \leq x < 77$	C
$87 \leq x < 90$	B+	$70 \leq x < 73$	C-
$83 \leq x < 87$	B	$60 \leq x < 70$	D
$80 \leq x < 83$	B-	$0 \leq x < 60$	F

## Homework

The key to success in this course is to master the homework. Homework will be assigned everyday in class. Homework will be done online using WeBWorK, an open-source homework system. The number of attempts is unlimited. Problems can be done in any order. You do not have to do them all at once. Normally, the homework sets for the week will be due next Thursday 11:59pm. If you need or desire an extension on any homework for any reason, contact the instructor in a timely fashion before the due time, as permitted by the need.

### WEBWORK ACCESS INFORMATION:

1. Go to <http://webwork.syr.edu/>
2. Click on the class name "MAT\_285\_Fall\_2021\_Jia".
3. Your username is your NetID in lower case letters (for example, "jqpublic"). Your password is initially set to be your 9-digit SUID. You should change it after logging in for the first time. Also, note that even if you used WebWorK before for another course, the password is reset to the 9-digit student id number.

Homework will be worth 10% of your final grade.

## Quizzes

There will often be a closed-book weekly online quiz. Normally, the quiz will be based on the sections covered in the previous week. (That is, everything covered in class after the previous quiz.) The problems on the quiz will be very close to lecture example problems or the homework. And the quiz problems will be similar to the exam problems.

Normally, the quizzes will be available on Blackboard "Quizzes" Tab from Thursday 8pm to Friday 11:59pm. You can choose any required time-slot (usually 30-50 minutes) during this time period to download, finished the problems, scan and upload your work. No make-up quizzes. A "Quiz-Late submission" Tab will be available on Saturday 11:59pm. Half credits can be received for a late submission. No credits can be received after Saturday 11:59pm. (The exact starting time or due time might be changed during special circumstances.)

About scanning: You can download the free version of the app CamScanner:

<https://www.camscanner.com>

This app can be used on cellphones (androids; iPhones, etc.) and use it to scan your handwritten work in pdf format. CamScanner does a terrific job at optimizing the quality of the image; is very fast; allows for multiple-page files; and makes it super-easy to share via e-mail. Really easy, super-fast, and much better image quality. There are many other free apps (like scanner) that do a good job too.

## Exams

There will be three tests during the semester, each accounting for 20% of your final grade. There are no makeup tests. However, for excused absences, the corresponding portion of the comprehensive final exam will be used in place of the missing test score. Tests will be scheduled in the

following time frame. The exact exam date will be announced in a timely manner.

**TEST CORRECTIONS:** Students who did not get an A on the test are required to submit correct solutions to all of the missed or partial-credit-earned problems. Corrections will count for a quiz grade. If a student received an A on the previous exam, they may submit one assigned problem. (This will ensure that everyone is able to get equally number of quizzes.)

The final exam is comprehensive and accounts for 20% of the final grade. The MAT 285 final exam will be scheduled for a two-hour period at some time on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 between 8:00am and 2:30pm ET. The precise time will be announced in class later.

**STUDENTS MUST TAKE THE FINAL EXAM AT THE LISTED TIME. DO NOT MAKE PLANS TO LEAVE CAMPUS BEFORE 2:30pm ET ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021. THERE ARE NO PROVISIONS FOR TAKING THE FINAL EXAM AT ANY OTHER TIME!**

Exam schedule summarized as follows:

Test 1	Week of September 27, 2021
Test 2	Week of October 25, 2021
Test 3	Week of November 29, 2021
Final Exam	Wednesday, December 15, 2021

### Tips for Success

- It is absolutely essential that you understand how to solve the assigned homework problems and, more importantly, how and why the skills and techniques presented in the course are used in solving the assign problems. Exam questions will be similar to these problems.
- Ask questions about anything that is not completely clear. Don't hesitate to bring questions to your instructors during office hours.
- Every day, read and study the sections in the textbook covered in the lecture. Learning mathematics takes time! Read carefully and work through all the examples in complete detail. It can be helpful to try to work through an example on your own before reading the solution.
- Stay caught up. Mathematical concepts build on each other cumulatively and you need to stay on top of the material at every stage. If you are having difficulty, don't expect that the problem will take care of itself and disappear later. Contact your course instructor immediately and discuss the problem!
- Form a study group. Many students benefit from a study group to work through challenging problems and to review for exams. You should attempt the problems ahead of time by yourself and then work through any difficulties with your study partners. Explaining your reasoning to another student can help to clarify your own understanding.
- You should expect to work hard. Don't get discouraged if you find some of the material very difficult. Be persistent and patient! If you follow the above suggestions, your experience in this course will be a rewarding one.

## **Respect Policy**

I respect your time:

- I will come prepared to help you understand the course material and prepare you for quizzes/exams.
- Communication is key: I cannot help you if I do not know what is going on.
- I am here to help you, this is your time, so let me know what I can do to help you succeed.
- If there is something that you would like me to do differently, please, let me know. I am happy to work with you to make class the best it can be.

Respect my time:

- Be on time to class.
- Pay attention when I am talking to you.
- Come to class prepared by doing the work and going to office hours when you need help.

Respect each other:

- Do not be disruptive. If you need to take a call or text someone, take it outside.
- Work with each other to find solutions. You learn more by helping each other.
- Allow one another to make mistakes. This is an important part of the learning process.
- Use respectful language when talking with one another.