





Mathematics (MATH) 260

Calculus for Social Sciences and Economics (Revision 4)

Status:

Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

Delivery mode:

Individualized study  with eText 

Credits:

3

Area of study:

Science

Prerequisites:

None. Students are expected to have completed Math 30 or 31, or an equivalent matriculation-level high-school mathematics course, and to have a good understanding of high-school-level algebra.

Precluded:

None

Challenge:

MATH 260 has a challenge for credit option.

Faculty:

Faculty of Science and Technology 

Mathematics Diagnostic Assessment 

This online test contains 70 questions that will help you assess your mathematical skills.



Notes:

Based on your score we will recommend which Athabasca University mathematics course you are likely ready to take successfully.

Overview

MATH 260 is designed to teach you to use a range of mathematical techniques to solve concrete problems in business and the social sciences.

Outline

- Unit 1: Functions and Graphs
- Unit 2: Limits and the Derivative
- Unit 3: Additional Derivative Topics
- Unit 4: Graphing and Optimization
- Unit 5: Integration
- Unit 6: Additional Integration Topics
- Unit 7: Multivariable Calculus

Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be able to

- demonstrate a foundational understanding of single- and multivariable calculus for social sciences and economics, with a focus on functions and graphing, optimization, differentiation, and integration.
- use single- and multivariable calculus methods for applied problem solving in business and social sciences.
- apply knowledge gained in this course to future learning in calculus or



other calculus-based courses.

- communicate mathematical ideas and analyses in a clear and organized manner.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for MATH 260, you must submit all the course assignments and complete them to the satisfaction of your tutor. You must also achieve a grade of at least D 50 percent on each examination, and a course composite grade of at least **D (50 percent)** [📄](#). The weighting of the composite grade is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Assignment 1	10%
Assignment 2	10%
Midterm Examination	30%
Assignment 3	10%
Assignment 4	10%
Final Examination	30%
Total	100%

To learn more about assignments and examinations, please refer to Athabasca University's **online Calendar** [↗](#).

Materials

Barnett, R. A., M. R. Ziegler, K. E. Byleen, and C. J. Stocker. *Calculus for Business, Economics, Life Sciences, and Social Sciences: Brief*



Version. 14th Ed. New York, NY: Pearson, 2019.  (eText)

eText

Registration in this course includes an electronic textbook. For more information on **electronic textbooks** [↗](#), please refer to our **eText Initiative site** [↗](#).

Other Materials

The *Student's Solutions Manual* for the above eText is available in the publisher's online resources (MyLab), which are accessible on the course start date.

The course materials include a study guide and student manual.

Your textbook also provides access to MyLab, which has seven quizzes for students to practice and test their knowledge. The Course Orientation provides instructions on how to register for MyLab.

Challenge for credit

Overview

The challenge for credit process allows you to demonstrate that you have acquired a command of the general subject matter, knowledge, intellectual and/or other skills that would normally be found in a university-level course.

Full information about **challenge for credit** [↗](#) can be found in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Evaluation

To **receive credit** [↗](#) for the MATH 260 challenge registration, you must complete the two parts of the challenge exam and achieve a minimum grade of at least **D (50 percent)** [📄](#) on both parts. The two parts of the exam must be written on the same day, or on two consecutive days.

Activity	Weight
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Activity	Weight
Midterm Exam	50%
Final Exam	50%
Total	100%



Challenge for credit course registration form

Important links

- > [Academic advising](#)
- > [Program planning](#)
- > [Request assistance](#)
- > [Support services](#)

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

Opened in Revision 4, January 8, 2019

Updated November 26, 2024

View [previous revision](#)

