

## Advice for Calculus I Students

From the Spring 2020 Calculus I Students

*I asked my students what advice they would give students who are taking Calculus I for the first time. This is what they said.*

- Limits and derivatives are the core of the class. Everything else builds on them.
- Make sure to retake the quizzes, not only for your grade but also to make sure you understand the material.
- Take notes. You will learn a lot, but at the same time, you will start to forget the rules.
- Firstly, learn how to COMPUTE LIMITS! Second of all, don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Make sure to stay caught up! Just missing one class can put you behind a mile. Also, don't be afraid to ask as many questions as you need to. Calculus is hard and there is no shame in struggling with it.
- Be proactive with the material in this class. It is easier to stay on pace with the class by keeping ahead rather than trying to play catch up all day.
- Don't feel bad about having to ask questions. It is better to feel embarrassed for a couple of seconds than to not know what to do on the test/quiz.
- The calculator cannot give you all the answers. Ask your professor, tutors, your classmates any questions you have. They may be able to help you understand the material better.
- Don't sweat trying to get an A. It's not worth it. It's better to learn from the mistakes you've made than focus on the letter. Keep working no matter the circumstances.
- Taking calculus 1 for the first time is a bit disheartening because it really pushes you to dive into comprehension and really understanding the concepts. To be successful in calculus I, understanding what you're writing down is necessary. Take extra time and really understand the theorems and know when they are applied. Be patient with yourself and don't lose heart. Calculus I is a language, and you have to learn to read it before you write it or speak it.
- Be ready to open up your mind and think about math in a totally different way; although you'll use the skills from previous classes, a lot of new concepts are introduced.
- Take reassessments ASAP. Stay organized/on-time with quizzes and assignments, and don't be scared to ask questions. Also, wash your hands. 😊
- Believe in yourself, do your homework, and ask questions.