

2025-2026 Course Syllabus Pioneer High School

Course Title: AP Calculus AB
Instructor: Mr. Ryan Hansen
Room: C323

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Website: www.HansenMath.com
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Course Description: AP Calculus AB at Pioneer High School addresses the fundamental topics of a first-semester college course in Calculus and Analytic Geometry, including limits, derivatives, integrals, and their applications. There are eight (8) units of study in this course. The course emphasizes preparation for the Advanced Placement Examination, which may qualify students for college credit. Although students are strongly encouraged to sit for the AP Examination, participation is not mandatory. Information regarding the 2026 AP Testing schedule will be provided on the instructor's website as it becomes available.

Classroom Expectations: Students are expected to engage rigorously with course material and strive for a thorough understanding of Calculus concepts. As this is a fast-paced course, effective and efficient use of instructional time is essential. The classroom functions as a collaborative learning environment in which growth as both individuals and as a collective is emphasized. Respect, kindness, and encouragement are required of all participants. All Pioneer High School and Mathematics Department policies will be observed, including those regarding: attendance, electronic devices and AI, appropriate technology use, academic integrity, and standards of conduct. Students are expected to check Schoology and their AAPS email account on a daily basis.

Grading Policy:

Classwork & Homework (Formative – 20% of quarter grade)

- Assignments are posted daily on Schoology and are due to be uploaded by end of day.
- You will be required to submit two versions: The first attempt, and then a second attempt—in an alternate color—after receiving access to the answer key.
- Late work will receive at least a 20% reduction. Chronic late work typically leads to poor outcomes.
- Once a unit of study has concluded (or the quarter ends), missing homework will no longer be accepted for that unit.
- Time will often be given in class to begin assignments, collaborate, and ask questions.
- If absent, it is the student's responsibility to check Schoology for missed work.

Assessments (Summative – 80% of quarter grade)

- Quizzes will be given approximately every 5–10 class meetings.
- Unit Tests will be administered after each major unit of study, with advance notice. These Tests are designed to reflect the rigor and format of the AP Exam.
- Per the student handbook, attendance for assessments is strictly enforced. Unverified absences forfeit the right to make up an assessment.
- Verified absences require the student to make up the assessment immediately upon return.

Unit Test Retake Policy

AP Calculus AB is a college-level course, and like in college, assessments are high-stakes and limited to one attempt. However, since this is still high school, I believe in offering a structured opportunity for growth.

- **One Retake Opportunity Per Semester:**
Each student may retake one Unit Test per semester. Choose wisely.

- Eligibility: To qualify for a retake, students must:
 1. Submit a complete error analysis of the original exam (explaining mistakes and corrections). Either in an alternate color or on separate document
 2. Complete all homework assignments for that unit.
 3. Schedule the retake within one week of receiving the graded exam back.
- Format: The retake will focus on the same learning objectives as the original exam, but questions will not be identical.
- Grading:
 - The higher of the two scores (original or retake) will stand.
 - To maintain fairness and rigor, retake scores will be capped at 90% maximum.

A Word About Grades: This course is taught at the level of a first-semester college calculus class, though offered within Pioneer High School. Performance on the AP Calculus AB Examination is intended to reflect college-level proficiency. According to the College Board, AP Exam scores correspond to the following levels of qualification:

- **5** – Extremely Well Qualified (comparable to a college grade of A)
- **4** – Well Qualified (comparable to a college grade of A–, B+, or B)
- **3** – Qualified (comparable to a college grade of B–, C+, or C)
- **2** – Possibly Qualified (no direct college grade equivalent)
- **1** – No Recommendation (no direct college grade equivalent)

Scores of 3–5 are generally regarded as “passing.” While Pioneer High School’s AP pass rate exceeds the state average, it is not realistic to expect that every student—or even the majority—will earn an “A” in this course. Importantly, a specific letter grade in this class does not guarantee an equivalent AP Exam score, nor does a given AP score guarantee a corresponding course grade.

Students will be evaluated under timed testing conditions, consistent with College Board standards. Extended time will only be provided in cases where a legally binding IEP or 504 Plan is on file with the counseling department.

Supplies

- Handouts/guided notes that align with the AP curriculum (provided in class).
- DESMOS Graphing Application—please bring AAPS-issued MacBook daily.
- Pencil and alternate colors for correcting work.
- Notebook/folder for notes, assignments, and organization.
- *Optional:* TI-84 Graphing Calculator (approved for AP Testing).

Extra Help

This course may challenge you to adjust your learning strategies. To support you:

- Lesson videos will be posted on Schoology.
- You can seek out videos on YouTube from teachers around the globe!
- AP Classroom offers additional resources and practice.
- Forming a study group is strongly encouraged. Collaboration often leads to breakthroughs.

Closing

I strongly believe education is a partnership between students, parents, teachers, and administration. If there is anything I can do to help make this year successful, please reach out at any time. I am looking forward to an amazing year together!

Sincerely,



Mathematics Teacher
Ann Arbor Pioneer High School