

**SPRING 2020**  
**SYLLABUS CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19**

This situation is new for all of us, so these policies are still subject to change based on your feedback. The main new change is that your quiz grade is going to be replaced with a Piazza participation grade. Details are below.

**Exams.**

- The exam dates are unchanged.
- I'll have more firm details later, but currently my plan is to do something similar to math 241 and math 242: There will be a timed closed-book Webassign exam at the usual class time, plus an untimed open-book hand-written exam uploaded to Gradescope.

**Homework.** Our homework policies remain unchanged.

**Quizzes.**

- There will no longer be any quizzes.
- For the remainder of the semester, your "quiz grade" will be based on your participation on Piazza during classtime.

**Collaboration.**

- Our collaboration policies remain unchanged.
- At a time like this, collaboration is more essential than usual.

**Office Hours.**

- Office hours will be held on Piazza.
- I've doubled my office hours, at least temporarily. The times are posted on the course calendar as before.
- For personal issues that cannot be handled by email, we can set up a video meeting.

**Absences.**

- If you have to miss a lot of work, send me an email and we'll talk about taking an incomplete.
- If need be, I'll offer a make-up exam once we can return to campus. Anyone who passes the make-up exam will pass the course, regardless of missing work; however, you'll probably need to make up the work anyways in order to learn what you need to learn in order to pass the exam.

**Grading.** The grading scheme remains unchanged, except that your quiz grade for the remainder of the semester will be based on your participation on Piazza during classtime.

**Classtime and Participation.**

- During classtime, you will work together on Piazza to solve problems of your choice in a particular section of the textbook.
- You can work alone or with others, but by the end there should be one or two solutions per student in the class.
- You can write a solution before classtime in advance if you'd like, but I encourage you to work during classtime so that you can work together and fix each other's mistakes.

- At the end of class, I will look at each problem and check both the answer and the solution. I will count the number of problems where both the answer and the solution are correct.
- If there are more correct solutions than the number of students (25 for math 243, 16 for math 253A), then everybody who participated gets participation credit.
- If there are fewer correct solutions than the number of students, then I will give one participation credit per correct solution to the students who participated the most. For example, if there are only 10 correct problems, then only 10 students will get participation credit.
- I will assess who participated the most by using the history slider in Piazza to see what everyone contributed. You can get points for big contributions or for several small contributions. I will assign points to each contribution as follows:
  - 5 points: a correct and complete solution.
  - 3 points: a solution with mistakes, or a solution to part of a problem.
  - 1 point: fixing a mistake in someone else's solution, suggesting a way to start a problem, finding a relevant part of the textbook, and any other edits or comments that contribute towards solving the problem.
- These points only matter for deciding who gets participation credit if there aren't enough participation credits to go around. As long as you do enough to get participation credit, it doesn't matter how many points you get.