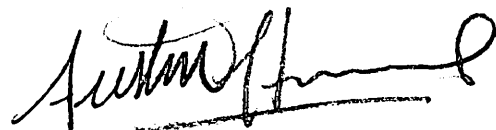


Sharing Your Advice



In the space below, please write a letter to next year's AP Calculus students, sharing your helpful advice to those who are just starting this journey. What worked well for you? Is there anything you wish you had done differently? What carried you through the more difficult sections? Be as specific as you like, and keep in mind that next year's students will be reading your advice in August!

Hey there incoming AP Calculus Student.

To be completely honest this is not as hard of a course as it's made out to be, if you take the necessary steps to ensure success. Here are some of the things I did to keep me afloat. Number one, don't take homework lightly. Even if it is a completion grade, do it fully and to the best of your ability the extra practice will help you nail it down in the long run I promise! Spread all work out evenly, don't do it all at once, or wait to do it the night before, spreading it out will ease the workload and give you chances to go back and check your work. Lastly, if you don't understand something look it up, don't hesitate, there are so many resources that can help you understand. (Like Khan Academy). If you're still stuck go to Mrs. Brown, she's great and will be more than happy to assist you. Personally I felt this course was not only easier than AB, but it will help to clear up any misconceptions from AB, I assure you! Best of luck! You'll do great!

-Austin Howard (Class of 2017)

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To whomever it may concern,

This class is definitely the most interesting math course I've had. It can become pretty challenging, but if you just listen to Mrs. Brown it isn't hard to excel here. Do the homework when it's assigned. It isn't hard to keep up with so long as you don't let it build up. Don't rely on the spin to save. For the APRPs I suggest beginning them early and compare with as many classmates as possible. Another thing that helps is taking organized notes. I kept a composition book for the second semester of AB Calc after having disorganized notes first semester, and it made a whole letter grade of difference for me. Additionally, I used that notebook for review over the course of taking BC Calc this year. I wish you the best with this class and hope you learn as much from it as I did.

Sincerely, Maddy Murphy

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Dear Calculus student,

Welcome to BC! No matter where you left off in your previous course, you now have the opportunity of a clean slate. With the smaller, more focused curriculum of Calc BC, you're more likely than ever to succeed. If you apply yourself to this class, learn it all, do the assignments, and practice on your own, a 5 is inevitable. Now, if you think your goals can't be that high, think again. In 2016 99% of the students taking the BC exam got a 5. From my experience, Lyman's version of that statistic is even higher, and you will be a part of that group. Trust me. If you ~~don't~~ don't know how to practice, here are some ways to: go through a Barron's review book, join Mr. Alpha Theta, watch Khan Academy, and, of course, ask Mrs. Brown. She wants you to succeed on the exam, and is always willing to help. So take advantage of that. Goodbye, good luck, and here's to a great school year!

Sincerely,

Patrick Wilton

P.S. Feel free to ~~contact~~ ^{contact} me, I'll still be here at Lyman if you need help with calculus.

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Congratulations!

You've landed a place in one of the best classes at Lyman. The key to passing this class is simple... do your homework! Not only will it help you practice concepts in class, but it will cushion your grade (just in case you don't do so hot on the next test).

That being said - use your class time wisely. Your friends can explain concepts you don't understand AND SO CAN MRS. BROWN! You won't want to complete these assignments at home so you might as well finish.

If there's any advice I can give you it's do not wait until the end of the year to go over concepts you did not understand! You're less likely to figure it out the night before the AP exam than 3 months in advance with a teacher.

Lastly, enjoy this year! Relax! Calculus is only difficult if you make it so.

The Best of Luck,

Danielle Gault

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Dear AP Calc Students,

Let me begin by saying that AP Calculus BC is a great course for growth in your mathematical abilities.

BC ~~is~~ is a course that requires you to put in the work for you to master the concepts. My advice is to initially diagnose your weaknesses in AB material and review those concepts so that the BC material becomes a lot easier for you.

If you don't do this early you will find yourself overwhelmed with ~~with~~ ^{understanding} new concepts because BC still uses all the foundations you used previously. Make sure to ask questions on difficult concepts because Mrs. Brown will always explain it well to you.

Best of Luck,
Arthur Montoya

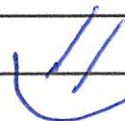
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Hello AP Calc ~~Student~~ Student!

Everything that you do and are taught in this class is very important. It might seem pointless at times, but if you don't grasp a concept early on, it will lead to major confusion later on. However, don't stress about learning every ~~minute~~ ^{minute} thing in the course, because you can still be successful in Calculus. This class is challenging at times but if you pace yourself efficiently, ~~it~~ it isn't very stressful. Also, if you have a question or concerns on topics, don't be afraid to ask Mrs. Brown, and more importantly, your peers. Calculus has been one of my favorite topics to learn about and I hope that you find success in this course. You definitely can!

Best of luck (skills)!



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Dear Calculus Student,

Welcome, you have made it to a very high level of math and you should be proud of yourself. Mrs. Brown is an excellent teacher! Calculus was one of my favorite classes to take and I never hated walking into class. ~~My~~

I had trouble in Related Rates, Optimization, and in BC series and sequences. I also didn't study much so I definitely recommend taking the time to study the material. Also make study groups for everything, AP's especially!

With this, enjoy AP Calculus and get ready to learn something that most people never see in their life!

Good Luck,



Class of 2017

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Dear AP Calculus BC students,

Congrats, you have made it to the highest level of mathematical education offered at Lyman High School. I know AB last year was a lot of information to take in, don't worry if you are still shaky on some topics because you will spend an entire quarter this year reviewing old AB material. The BC material can be tricky at times, but you have plenty of time to learn it and if you don't understand, there are plenty of resources available to help you, either online or just ask Mrs. Brown, she's there to help you succeed! Don't feel discouraged if you do not do as well when you first start doing practice FROs or exams, you will get better at them. You might be tempted to let the work slide because Mrs. Brown is laid back, but do it when it is assigned. Trust me, it will help you with the in class assignments and it is only a little bit at a time anyway. A big plus is you rarely see the horrid related rates problems as well... Good luck!

Sharing Your Advice

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Dear BC Calc. Student,

Good luck this year! BC is a lot less work than AB, which is good for your grade. However, if you actually want to retain the information you need to make an effort to go back on your own to redo problems you got wrong & actually understand what you did wrong rather than just moving on. Mrs. Brown is going to have you make notecards (probably)... actually go back & review these & know them even though she may not test you on them; after taking the AP exam I wish I had memorized those cards more! Also, ~~you~~ use the resources & concept sheets that you have from AB, because they will come in handy when you are reviewing for the AP exam and you realize that you forgot something that right now you don't think you will ever forget! Work hard the first semester b/c senioritis is REAL & you will not regret knowing the first semester stuff REALLY well once you realize how little you know from second semester at the end of the year.

Good Luck,
Bailey Morris

Sharing Your Advice

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How is it going? AP calculus is a class that looks intimidating at first but is just like any other class you've taken before. You need to work through it and put in the time and effort to get the results. My experience was of the same as you, I walked in on the first day feeling intimidated and honestly scared. I knew this wasn't going to be easy, but I had to push through it like I've done in the past. The Best Advice I can give you is that you should listen to what your teacher says, take her recommendations as to what you need to do in order to succeed. More than anything though you have to be willing to do what is necessary to succeed and if that means putting in extra time, staying after school, or asking someone to help understand the concept, do it. I made the mistake of not doing nearly enough of these things and I believe it would've made a whole lot of difference.

Best of luck to you!!!

• Sharing Your Advice

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If we're having trouble with any specific topics I suggest you look up videos on Khan Academy or YouTube to help you. Do this before you move onto the next topic because calculus builds on itself so you need to make sure you have a strong foundation. If you have the time towards the end of the year, I suggest you try to do a lot of practice questions from the white booklets. Those booklets helped me pinpoint the areas that I needed more help with. Also, make sure you focus on multiple choice and free response questions equally. Don't spend way more time on one or the other.

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Congratulations!

You've made it to Calculus BC. Good Job!

This was honestly one of the best math classes I've ever taken and as long as you aren't a HUGE slacker (or stay on Mrs. Brown's bad side for the whole year) then it'll probably be one of yours too. You really shouldn't have very much work to do at home as a lot of times Mrs. Brown will give you class time to do the assignments. Make sure that you actually complete all of the assignments on time, however, as the points add up. Also, take extra time checking your answers yourself and even with classmates for the APBP. Mrs. Brown only assigns a few throughout the entire year but they count for a very significant amount of points, so it's worth taking the extra time to ensure that you have the right answers. Also, it's also worth thinking about who to sit with for your group. While you shouldn't really have any bad people, per say, to sit with, you'll end up spending a good deal of time talking and collaborating with your classmates in that group, and for me they turned out to develop into some of my closest friends that year. All things considered, this should be a pretty easy course for you. Good luck!

~ Dylan S.

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Yo yo, what is up my diggity dawggs. That's right, it is I, generic calculus student! To whomst'd've 'ly 'yaint 'nt 'ed 'ies 's 'y 'es concern this class is easiest if you just do the work. There are a lot of difficult topics but there are still fewer topics than AB, I recommend reviewing previous topics as the course progresses because in the grand scheme of things the class does go by fast. Overall don't fret, the Exam is more AB than BC topics so it really is not as bad as it looks, just trust your own ability that you were smart enough to get this far and are smart enough to keep going. Other than that, take it easy.

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The most common mistake in Calculus is being scared of Calculus. People freak out when people talk about Calculus, making them not learn the material or failing a test. The best thing to do during Calculus or any class that is said to be hard is to ignore what everyone else says and learn the material one step at a time because the best course of action is to not give up or freak out over a class or a technique. Paying attention to everything that happens in class and completing practice tests are the best ways to learn because you learn from others, your mistakes, and you get familiar with the style of the test.

- Feel free to ask me any questions at jesusrodriguez9907@gmail.com

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Dear Future AP Calc Student,

Congratulations on taking this course- you made the right decision. Besides being rewarding in course content and material, this class is so important to take because COLLEGES LOVE IT!

While this class is definitely difficult and challenging at times (get ready for convergence and divergence) it is also doable, as long as you stay caught up with the lessons and assignments. I found it helpful to watch Patrick JMT videos on youtube over and over again until I fell asleep because that really made them stick. I also liked doing ATONV of sample problems that I found online. As long as you put in the effort, you'll get that A that you want.

The more difficult sections of the course (i.e. polar graphs and convergence/divergence) just require lots and lots of practice. Don't get stressed out! Just make sure that you know the concepts behind each type of problem and try your best. As for the FRQs, there is usually a loose pattern regarding which types of problems are calc and non-calc. Figuring this out and studying the grading guidelines will help so so much.

I hope you will be able to integrate calculus into your life because you will derive a lot from it in the future.

Sincerely,

Nicole Seedarnee

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Be prepared to be challenged, as well as enjoy the ~~the~~ education you are about to receive. Some things are harder than others, and that is okay because you are not expected to know everything and yet you are still capable of being successful. Don't be afraid to be confused or ask questions because the more questions you ask the better your understanding of ~~more~~ the material. Most of all, don't forget to try! Putting effort into your education will make the learning process a lot smoother. Good skills everyone!



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Dear future students,

The best advice that I can give to you is to not be afraid to ask questions.

Throughout the year, I probably asked too many questions but it really helped me get a grasp on the subject. Make sure you know exactly what you do and don't understand and get help. Ms. Brown has always helped clarify things and never once made me feel bad about my questions.

It is also good to take detailed notes.

This will allow you to review each section and pinpoint what you're struggling with. Knowing your strengths and weaknesses is the best way to improve your skills.

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Dear Student,

Mrs. Brenner knows what she is doing and assigns work that is very helpful. Try to do all of the problems to the best of your abilities, and if you need help always ask. Make sure you do all your work and study.

- Andy Brenner

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Hello incoming Calculus student. Here are a few things to keep in mind throughout the year.

As you may know, Calculus concepts can be intimidating, but if you are patient, you will most likely learn it effectively. Simply put, don't ever give up.

In accordance with being patient, work through the assignments and exams thoroughly, and take note on tricky concepts (remember that taking worded, full sentence notes will be more effective than fragmented/illegible notes).

Lastly, don't be afraid to ask Mrs. Brown questions. At least in my experience, I found it almost intimidating that there are so many intelligent people in my class, so it admittedly does take a certain amount of humility to ask questions. Remember that everyone is trying to learn the concepts and asking for help is only going to help accomplish better learning.

Sincerely,

Alexander Danachilla

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Dear Calc BC student,

I know that all this higher level math maybe scary but don't fret BC is really easy. A majority of the class is review so tear it up and when it gets to BC topics be attentive and don't fall behind. ~~For~~ Reviewing on Khan Academy helped me prep for the exam. When reviewing don't just review and forget memorize so when you get to the ap exam you can knock it out of the park. **HOMERUN!**

— Anthony "The real deal" Delfeduzzo