

AP Calculus BC Exam, 2025: Monday, May 12, 2025 (morning session)

Beginning this year, College Board is moving the AP Calculus BC exam to a hybrid digital format.

You need to bring your school-issued laptop to the AP Exam, fully charged and ready to go (there may not be the ability to plug in your laptop during the exam).

- For the Multiple-Choice (MCQ) portions of the test, the AP Exam will display the questions on your laptop and you'll record your answers on your laptop as well.
- For the Free-Response (FRQ) portions of the test, the AP Exam will display the questions on your laptop but you'll write your answers in a test booklet with space for each part of each question.

Try out the BlueBook example test!

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AP Calculus BC Exam Format

Section	Question Type	Number of Questions	Exam Weighting	Timing
I	Multiple-choice questions			
	Part A: Graphing calculator not permitted	30	33.3%	60 minutes
	Part B: Graphing calculator required	15	16.7%	45 minutes
II	Free-response questions			
	Part A: Graphing calculator required	2	16.7%	30 minutes
	Part B: Graphing calculator not permitted	4	33.3%	60 minutes

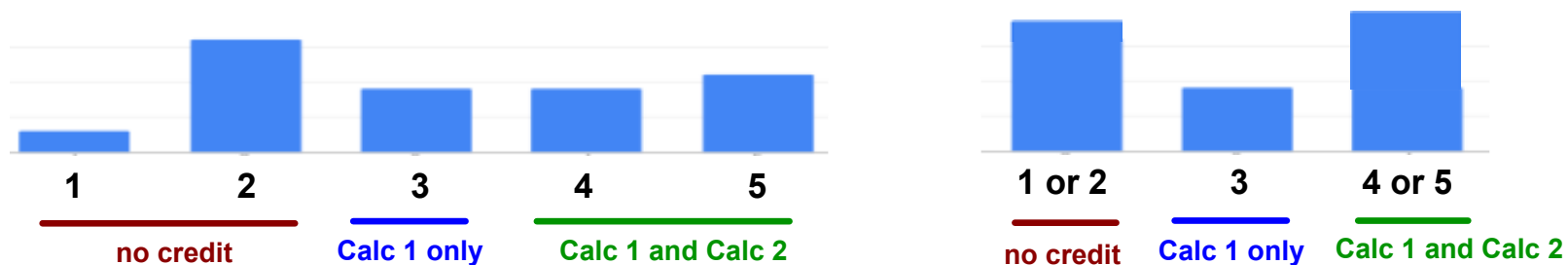
Each section is worth 50% of the exam points

Each of the 4 parts must be completed within its allowed time, and once a part has ended, it is not possible to go back and continue working on previous parts. *This includes the FRQs - starting this year, once Section II, Part A has timed out, students cannot return to it without a calculator during Part B (this is a change from previous years).*

How difficult is the AP Calculus BC Exam?

You don't have to get 90% of the exam correct for a 5, but this exam is challenging.

Last year's DV score distribution on the AP Calculus BC exam for my students:



I expect this year's scores to be substantially better for multiple reasons:

- Prior to this year, students were all coming to this course from Honors Finite Math/Brief Calculus which does not prepare students nearly as well for AP Exam rigor or Calculus 1 topics. Now, most of you are coming from AP Calculus AB.
- We've been able to accelerate new topic learning leaving all of 4th quarter available for AP exam review, and we will be able to bring much of what we previously could only do during optional Saturday review sessions into the regular classroom time review.

Still, do not underestimate the difficulty of this AP Exam. Doing well required significant personal review effort.

Our plan for reviewing for the AP Calculus BC Exam

During class...

- About half of the days, we will be working in randomly assigned groups on 14 FRQs selected from previous AP Exam for being the most commonly encountered topics and formats to give you practice with AP format and insight into how they grade. I'll give a paper copy of the problem (which you can keep in a folder to review with later) and you'll write your solution on a piece of printer paper I will give you.
- After 15-20 minutes work time (average time per FRQ on the AP Exam is 15 minutes) I'll have you turn in your solution, which I will grade for completion and return to you the next day. When I return your solution to you, we'll go over the scoring rubric in class so you can see how AP grades, and score your own.
- Once we are done with an FRQ, I'll post a link to a PDF with selected additional FRQs that cover similar topics so you can continue reviewing if you wish at home.
- Some days, instead of working another FRQ, we'll give time for you to ask questions about MCQs or previous FRQs.

Our plan for reviewing for the AP Calculus BC Exam

Homework...

- In place of unit homework packets, we will have required AP Classroom MCQ quizzes with AP-style problems selected to match the types of questions most frequently encountered on AP Exams.
- Unlike the FRQ review, which you did on paper to turn in, the MCQs you'll complete online.
- These will have due dates (approximately one week per AP Classroom MCQ HW quiz), but I will only check them for completion, and I'll set them up so you can check answers and re-work problems until you get them correct.

Our plan for reviewing for the AP Calculus BC Exam

Assessments...

- Since we have no Unit tests, we will instead have 5 assessments which each have 2 FRQs and some MCQs which cover topics from anywhere in the course.
- Each will be in AP-style and include topics covered previously by our in-class FRQs and homework MCQs (meaning that all students, even those not taking the AP Exam, will need to become adept at dealing with AP-format if you want to maintain a good course grade).
- We won't give out any reviews or practice for these assessments. Your practice is completing the in-class FRQs and AP Classroom MCQ HW Quizzes.

Our plan for reviewing for the AP Calculus BC Exam

At home review...

- Since there is no longer a daily homework assignment, your homework time should be devoted to:
 - Completing the current AP Classroom MCQ HW quiz by its due date.
 - If you weren't confident about an FRQ when we did it during class groupwork, use the links to additional similar FRQs for more practice.
 - Using the [large AP Study Guide](#) and the [Compact Review](#) to memorize all formulas and drill/test yourself on AP exam topics.
- You can find everything in the module 'AP Review' in Canvas and also on our class page on the www.mfelling.com website. (Links will be broken for future items, but will populate at the appropriate times.)

Our plan for reviewing for the AP Calculus BC Exam

Saturday review sessions...

- We will be hosting Saturday review sessions between now and the date of the AP Exam, where students work together on FRQ questions (different from those we will do in class) and dig in to the details of how things are scored.
- C-105, 10:00AM to 1:00PM. (You may need to enter campus through the teacher parking lot)
- Although these are most effective if you can be there for the entire time, the sessions are drop-in...you can come and go as needed :)
- Relaxed atmosphere with snacks :)
- On two Saturdays (April 5 and April 26) we will host full mock-AP Exams.

Saturday sessions schedule

(C105 - 10:00AM to 1:00PM - a little later on mock exam days)

3/29/25: FRQ Review week 1

4/5/25: Practice AP Exam (full 3.5-hr exam experience - see what it is like to take an AP Calc BC Exam. When you leave, we'll give you a key so you can score your own exam.

4/12/25: FRQ Review week 2

4/19/25: FRQ Review week 3

4/26/25: Practice AP Exam (full 3.5-hr exam experience - see what it is like to take an AP Calc BC Exam. When you leave, we'll give you a key so you can score your own exam.

5/3/25: FRQ Review week 4

5/10/25: Open review day for any last minute questions

Monday, 5/12/25: ** The AP Calculus BC Exam **

Things to do now to prep for the AP Calculus BC Exam...

- Work on the AP Classroom MCQ HW Quiz #1 (due next Monday) and also submit the Unit 5 FRQ Review from AP Classroom (due this Friday)
- Use the [AP Calculus BC Study Guide](#) and [Compact Review](#) to really start memorizing formulas and reviewing concepts.
- Tomorrow and Thursday, we'll do the first two in-class FRQs. If you weren't able to solve them easily, use the additional similar FRQs PDF posted for additional practice. [These FRQ topics will be on the first assessment which is next week Friday.](#)
- [Try to attend the Saturday sessions if you can:](#) 10AM-1:00PM beginning this Saturday. Bring your calculator and a pencil :)
- [Really try to take at least one of the two Saturday mock AP Exams:](#) Students universally reported that this was one the main reasons they got a 4 or a 5 on the actual AP Exam.
- [Ask questions about things when you encounter things you can't figure out:](#) Mr. Cook and I are both available before and after school for additional help!

