

## Math 20550-02, Spring 2012

### Tips for Studying for the Final

The final is Monday, May 7, 1:45-3:45 in 140 DBRT. There will be a review session Friday, May 4, at 9:35 a.m. in 140 DeBartolo (usual time and place).

You may bring a handwritten summary (both sides of a  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 11''$  sheet of paper, or one side of each of two  $8\frac{1}{2}'' \times 11''$  sheets of paper) to the exam. Calculators are **NOT** allowed. The exam covers the entire course, Chapters 12-16 in Stewart and MATLAB Assignments. There will be extra emphasis on the material not covered on earlier exams, Sections 16.4-5, 16.7-10.

Since you are allowed to bring in notes, I am not testing your ability to memorize formulas, algorithms, rules, etc. As you know by now, it is possible to get a computer to do many of the kinds of computations you have learned in the course. That means that the ability to do computations by hand is much less important. An understanding of the ideas, an ability to tell whether computer output is reasonable, and the ability to use and interpret the output are very important.

You can use the Review for the Final as an outline for reviewing and studying for the exam. Here are some questions to ask yourself. Can you fill in details? Could you explain the ideas to a friend? Do you know how to use them to solve problems? As part of your review, think about which concepts, formulas and theorems are most important. That will increase your understanding of the material and tell you what to put on your page of notes. You might find the Concept Check and True-False Quiz in the Review at the end of the chapters of Stewart useful.

The format of the exam will be similar to the format of the other exams.

I suggest that you begin by studying the material, to make sure you have everything at your finger tips. Then do the practice exam and Calculus III Review Problems. Figure out how to work the problems before looking at the answers.

For additional practice problems on topics not covered on Exams 1-3, I suggest p. 1161 #1, 17, 18, 19, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 39.

Don't wait until the last minute to study. Take advantage of a chance to ask questions at the review session and during office hours.

On the exam, be sure to read every question very carefully, then reread before you start answering it. As you go along, make sure you don't miscopy anything. Read the question again after you have finished it to make sure you answered the question you were asked. Be sure to show all your work and explain what you are doing.