

MTH104 Introductory Calculus

School: School of Science, Technology and Engineering

2026 | Trimester 2

UniSC Sunshine Coast
UniSC Moreton Bay

**BLENDED
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to unisc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

This course is designed to ensure you have the essential working knowledge for problem-solving in basic calculus to support mathematics topics in science and engineering. You will develop the technical skills needed for differentiation, integration and their applications, as well as several techniques for solving first order differential equations through applications.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

| ACTIVITY | HOURS | BEGINNING WEEK | FREQUENCY |
|--|-------|----------------|-----------|
| BLENDED LEARNING | | | |
| Learning materials – Asynchronous learning material | 2hrs | Week 1 | 12 times |
| Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial/workshop | 3hrs | Week 1 | 12 times |
| Seminar – On campus seminar | 1hr | Week 1 | 2 times |

1.3. Course Topics

Introductory elements of the theory and practice for differentiation (and its applications), for integration (and its applications), and techniques for solving the standard first order differential equations through applications. The use of MATLAB to investigate topics in numerical calculus is included.

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

| COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES | | GRADUATE QUALITIES |
|---|--|--|
| On successful completion of this course, you should be able to... | | Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming... |
| 1 | Use Problem solving strategies and mathematical reasoning to interpret, analyse and solve familiar and unfamiliar calculus problems in mathematics, science and engineering. | Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker |
| 2 | Model problem solutions following detailed specifications to explore several software features of MATLAB. | Knowledgeable Ethical |
| 3 | Interpret and communicate using mathematical terminology, symbols and conventions. | Empowered |

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

MTH202

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

QCAA Mathematical Methods or equivalent is recommended. It is assumed you can add, subtract, multiply and divide real numbers by hand and by calculator as appropriate; use general algebraic techniques (such as simplification and factorisation, rearranging equations, solving an equation to determine the value of one variable); and can solve problems in elementary geometry and trigonometry.

5.5. Microcredential Information

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Students will have a lot of extra in-class support over the first few weeks of the trimester, during which tutors will keep an eye out for difficulties and provide feedback and suggestions for good learning practices. Short, in-class preparedness quizzes (formative) will be run in weeks 1 and 2 to help students determine their level of preparedness for the course, and to help them make informed decision regarding their approach to, or continuation in, this course. The first module test will be run in week 3, which will provide students with an early indication regarding their progress (and study habits!).

6.3. Assessment tasks

| DELIVERY MODE | TASK NO. | ASSESSMENT PRODUCT | INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP | WEIGHTING % | WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH? | WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT? | WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT? |
|---------------|----------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|--|---------------------------|
| All | 1 | Artefact - Technical and Scientific | Individual | 10% | 1 week, every week. Each week's summary and problems will be designed to be completed with approximately 2-4 hours of dedicated work, depending on how well the student has assimilated the concepts and methods. | Throughout teaching period (refer to Format) | To be Negotiated |
| All | 2 | Quiz/zes | Individual | 50% | 30-60 minutes | Throughout teaching period (refer to Format) | In Class |
| All | 3 | Artefact - Technical and Scientific | Individual | 40% | Completed over 8 weeks | Throughout teaching period (refer to Format) | In Class |

All - Assessment Task 1: Weekly summary and problems

| GOAL: | <p>To encourage frequent and sustained engagement with course materials, through making useful revision notes, practice of problem solving strategies, and using mathematical reasoning to interpret, analyse and solve problems relating to each week's key ideas and methods.</p> <p>To develop familiarity and confidence in reading and using mathematical terminology, symbols and conventions in communicating the solutions to the problems.</p> <p>To embed the key concepts and methods so that progressive learning through the trimester is enabled, and which will also prepare the student for the various module tests.</p> | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|---|-----|
| PRODUCT: | Artefact - Technical and Scientific | | | | | | |
| AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT: | | | | | | | |
| FORMAT: | Each week, students will be instructed to create hand-written summary notes, and to complete a task. Explicit and detailed instructions will be provided in the Learning Management System (eg, Canvas). | | | | | | |
| CRITERIA: | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th></th> <th>Learning Outcome assessed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>A marking scheme awards marks based on the correctness and completeness of the task, the implementation of methods, and communication. Online submissions are marked solely on the correct values and formatting of the provided answers.</td> <td>1 3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | No. | | Learning Outcome assessed | 1 | A marking scheme awards marks based on the correctness and completeness of the task, the implementation of methods, and communication. Online submissions are marked solely on the correct values and formatting of the provided answers. | 1 3 |
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| GENERIC SKILLS: | Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy | | | | | | |

All - Assessment Task 2: Module Tests

| GOAL: | The course is identified as being composed of four modules. The module tests encourage you to revise the course material on an on-going basis and gives you an opportunity to assess your learning progress against the learning outcomes of this course. These tests also give you valuable practice in learning to solve problems independently, and to communicate your reasoning and methods. | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|---|-----|--|
| PRODUCT: | Quiz/zes | | | | | | | |
| AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT: | | | | | | | | |
| FORMAT: | These module tests are limited time, closed-book (unless specified otherwise in writing), and with no access to internet or electronic resources). Tests will consist of mixed practical and theoretical written questions. Students will write their answers in booklets that will be provided to them. The tests will be run in the scheduled tutorial class in weeks 3, 7 and 12, and submitted as a hardcopy. | | | | | | | |
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| GENERIC SKILLS: | Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy | | | | | | | |

All - Assessment Task 3: Assignment

| GOAL: | To reinforce and develop your knowledge and understanding of calculus and its language to solve familiar and unfamiliar problems. To introduced you to the use of MATLAB software for numerical explorations. To investigate topics in numerical calculus through software modelling. | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|--|-----|---|--|---|--|
| PRODUCT: | Artefact - Technical and Scientific | | | | | | | | | | |
| AUTHORSHIP STATEMENT: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FORMAT: | <p>The Assignment will be available from the course website by Week 5. The assignment specifies tasks that include the need for hand-calculation using methods of Calculus, followed by use of MATLAB to further explore the problem using graphical and numerical methods.</p> <p>The assignment demonstrates the use of graphing and the manual estimation of slopes of curves, and compares this against results obtained using Differential Calculus, and demonstrates the use of Differential Calculus, and graphing, to explore the trajectory of a projectile.</p> <p>The assignment also demonstrates the use of Integral Calculus to calculate areas under a function, and compares this against numerical results as calculated in MATLAB, and demonstrates the use of Integral Calculus to solve differential equations and Initial Value Problems, and compares this against numerical results as calculated in MATLAB.</p> <p>You will submit your assignment as handwritten hardcopy for Calculus working (unless you have writing difficulties, in which case contact the course coordinator), and print-outs of all MATLAB tasks, along with an assignment declaration sheet.</p> <p>Explicit and detailed instructions will be provided in the Learning Management System (eg, Canvas).</p> | | | | | | | | | | |
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| No. | | Learning Outcome assessed | | | | | | | | | |
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| 2 | For the MATLAB software components, marks are awarded for the submission of the documents mentioned in the Task Specifications and the correctness of the completed set tasks. | 2 | | | | | | | | | |
| GENERIC SKILLS: | Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy | | | | | | | | | | |

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

7.1. Schedule

| PERIOD AND TOPIC | ACTIVITIES |
|--------------------|---|
| Module 1 (2weeks) | Introduction to a mathematical interpretation of change. |
| Module 2 (4 weeks) | Techniques for differentiation and applications. |
| Module 3 (3 weeks) | Techniques for integration and applications. |
| Module 4 (3 weeks) | Techniques for solving simple differential equations through applications; Introduction to complex numbers. |
| Week 13 | Course overview and revision. |

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

You need regular access to the resource(s) below. Many texts are available as ebooks through the [Library](#) at no additional cost.

| REQUIRED? | AUTHOR | YEAR | TITLE | EDITION | PUBLISHER |
|-----------|----------------------------------|------|---|----------------|--------------|
| Required | Washington, Evans, Boue & Martin | 2020 | Basic Technical Mathematics with Calculus; SI Version | (11th Edition) | Pearson, USA |

8.2. Specific requirements

It is recommended that you possess a good quality scientific hand-calculator. You will not require a graphics, programmable or CAS calculator for this course.

On your entry to MTH104, it will be assumed that you have completed high-school Mathematical Methods (previously Maths B) or equivalent, and so should have a reasonable ability and knowledge for basic numeracy, variables, simple algebraic manipulations (rearranging equations, solving for a variable etc), solving pairs of linear equations, graphing on an x-y axis system, converting between polar coordinates and Cartesian coordinates (and vice-versa), the meaning of "slope", the basic functions for trigonometry (sin, cos, tan), exponents, logarithms, and polynomials (eg, straight lines, quadratics). You should also have some knowledge and understanding of important topics including Pythagoras' equation, sine and cosine rules, and basic geometry (angles, areas etc).

Although it is assumed that you will have previously covered these topics, for the first five weeks of trimester, there will be one extra hour attached to each tutorial to help you revise and master these essential foundations that are needed in order to enjoy and be successful in MTH104.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- (a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
- (b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:

- (a) One day: deduct 5%;
- (b) Two days: deduct 10%;
- (c) Three days: deduct 20%;
- (d) Four days: deduct 40%;
- (e) Five days: deduct 60%;
- (f) Six days: deduct 80%;
- (g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:

Less than 15 minutes: No penalty

From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty

More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.5. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful.

The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- [UniSC Student Central](#)
- [UniSC Adelaide Student Central](#)