

Tips for Studying for Math 126 Exam I

The exam is Thursday, September 28, 8:00-9:15 a.m. It is designed to be done in an hour. Make sure you know what room your exam is in.

The exam will cover chapter 6, except for section 6.12, and the first section of chapter 7. In regards to the inverse trig functions, you are only responsible for the inverses of $\sin(x)$, $\cos(x)$ and $\tan(x)$. For the hyperbolic functions, you are only responsible for $\sinh(x)$, $\cosh(x)$, $\tanh(x)$.

Calculators will be allowed. However, you must show all your work and all important steps on each problem. You will get no credit for just writing down an answer you find on your calculator. We have chosen the exam problems carefully to test your knowledge and understanding of the topics we have studied, not to test your ability to press buttons on a calculator.

The “Questions to Guide Your Review” at the end of each chapter of Thomas and Finney do an excellent job of giving you a review of what the basic concepts are. The one for chapter 6 is on page 547. If you don’t have time to look at all the questions, try to look at #1,2,3,4,9,11,12,13,16,18,19,20,25,26.

A good strategy for practicing computation is to go back through the homework problems and work problems similar to those assigned. At the end of each chapter in Thomas and Finney, there are “Practice Exercises” and “Additional Exercises–Theory, Examples.” For chapter 6, these begin on page 548. Begin by studying the material, to make sure you have everything at your finger tips. Then work an assortment of the odd-numbered problems. You might at least try to look at #3,13,17,27,31,35,39,45,61,65,67,73,75,85, 89,95,97,101,121,123.

We have covered lots of topics. For example, we have talked about more than 20 different functions. On an exam designed to take an hour, we cannot possibly ask you a question about each topic.