MAT 127: Calculus C, Spring 2022
Comments on the Midterm I Results

The letter grade splits (out of 80) for the first midterm are:

MTI score	65+	50-64	40-49	28-39	27-
letter grade	A-/A	B±	C/C+	D	F

If you would like to discuss how a specific problem was graded on your midterm, please speak with the primary grader for the problem as indicated below:

MTI Problem	2	3	4	5
grader	HC	CD	MR	AZ

When you meet with the grader you must have a printout of the solutions to the midterm. Your grade will be changed, *up or down*, only if you convince the grader that your solution was graded in a way inconsistent with the grading instructions described in the solutions or with how other students' solutions were graded. If there is an issue with how Problem 1 on your exam was graded, or if your scores were added incorrectly, or your total was incorrectly recorded in *Blackboard*, please let your instructor know asap. *All issues with Midterm I and HW3,4 must be resolved by March 24*; the grades for HW1,2 are no longer subject to change for any reason.

This midterm is key to determining whether you have a chance of passing this course. You have been provided with plenty of detailed information to prepare for it, but some of you evidently did not make as much use of it as you could have. The second midterm will be harder. Typically, the scores drop 15-20 points out of 100 from the first to the second midterm in MAT 127. If you did not pass this midterm, you are unlikely to pass this course; see Table 3 on p7 of the *Additional Course Information* handout.

Based on your performance on the midterm (and other factors if it is ambiguous in your case), you should now make the decision whether to leave MAT 127 and take it next term or stay in the class and do sufficiently well in the rest of the semester to pass it (you won't be able to drop out after the second midterm). Below is a description of what your Midterm I score (out of 80) indicates.

27−: This is an extremely poor score. It would be overly optimistic to describe your chances of passing this course even as remote; see Table 3 on p7 of the *Additional Course Information* handout. There is no question that you would be better off (including in terms of your GPA) moving back to MAT 126 (even if you have taken it before), doing well in it while reviewing some pre-calculus, and then doing well in MAT 127 over the summer or next term, instead of failing MAT 127 this term and then struggling in it again next term (and that is *if* Academic Advising allows you to retake MAT 127).

28-39: This is a very poor score. Your chances of passing this course are rather remote; see Table 3 on p7 of the *Additional Course Information* handout. You would almost certainly be better off (including in terms of your GPA) moving back to MAT 126 (even if you have taken it before), doing well in it while reviewing some pre-calculus, and then doing well in MAT 127 over the summer or next term, instead of failing MAT 127 this term and then struggling in it again next term (and that is *if* Academic Advising allows you to retake MAT 127). If your score is near the top of this range and you manage to at least hold it there on the

second midterm and on the final (which will be much harder to do than getting this score to begin with), then a very strong homework score may pull you over the C cut-off for the semester (depending also on your precise EE score).

40-49: This is a poor score, especially for the first midterm. Your chances of passing this course are not great, but not terrible either; see Table 3 on p7 of the *Additional Course Information* handout. You should be able to pass this course by putting in a lot of effort and keeping up your homework scores. If you do not intend to do so, you would be better off (especially in terms of your GPA) moving back to MAT 126 (even if you have taken it before), doing well in it while reviewing some pre-calculus, and then doing well in MAT 127 over the summer or next term, instead of failing MAT 127 this term and then struggling in it again next term (and that is *if* Academic Advising allows you to retake MAT 127). Another possibility for you is to move to MAT 132, but it involves more risk: while you'll see (most of) Chapter 4 again and there will be two recitation hours per week (in addition to 3 hours in a large lecture), MAT 132 will move through Chapters 5 and 6 much quicker (you will likely find Chapters 5 and 6 much harder than Chapter 4 at either pace).

50-59: This is pretty good. While you may still have a chance for an A for the semester, you have a greater chance for failing (D/F) this course and a high chance of finishing the semester with a grade below B; see the bottom of p7 of the *Additional Course Information* handout. In practice, this will of course depend on your EE and HW scores and most importantly on the effort you put into this course between now and May 11. In particular, if you would like to get a good grade for this course, you must prevent your grade on the second midterm dropping significantly from the first.

60-71: This is very good. You have a good chance for an A in this course, though it is still not impossible for you to fail (D/F) it and quite possible to get a C if you lose focus. So keep it up!

72+: Congratulations on the great job! See the previous case for more comments.

The deadline for moving to MAT 126 (or 132) is Friday, 3/4, 4pm. In order to do so, you need to go to Math P-143 to pick up an "MAT Move Up/Down" form, choose a recitation section, ask the instructor of the corresponding lecture or the course coordinator to sign the form, and take the signed form to the registrar's office. Thus, this process may require a couple of days. In any case, if you plan to move to MAT 126 (or 132), you should start this process as soon as possible (today!) so that you can get more of the easier points in the new class.

If you did poorly on the first midterm, you can also withdraw from this class. However, this is likely to be less beneficial for taking MAT 127 next time (and for your GPA), and you would need to ask Academic Advising for a retake permission. The deadline for withdrawing from MAT 127 (or any other course) is Friday, 4/1, 4pm, before Midterm II (as scheduled by SBU). However, if you plan to withdraw MAT 127, you should do so as soon as possible (within a week) so that you do not forget to do so until it is too late and can concentrate on your other courses without worrying about MAT 127.

If you choose to stay in MAT 127 and then fail it, you will need to ask for a retake permission from *Academic Advising.* There is no guarantee it will be granted. So be realistic about your chances of passing this course, and stay in MAT 127 only if you intend to pass it!