

## Syllabus Updates for Math 116

*Weeks 1-10**UCSB 2015***Syllabus updates!**

Hello! Based on class feedback on the week 3 survey, I proposed some changes to the class structure; these were voted on and passed in class by pretty heavy margins (24-3 in each voted-on case.) They're listed here:

1. Quizzes will no longer occur. The quiz portion of your grade will be scaled to  $6.\bar{6}\% = (3/9) \cdot 20\%$ , as we took 3 of the 9 quizzes that occur throughout the class, and the original quiz score was designed to count for 20%. The missing  $13.\bar{3}\%$  of your grade will be filled in by proportional increases to the HW, midterm, and final grades.
2. HW will have a “check-down” required problem or two, along with a section where you choose 2-3 out of 5 or so problems. The problems you choose between will remain at the difficulty of the first three sets; the “check-down” problems will be quiz-difficulty on average.
3. The midterm and final will be take-home. Each will likely have a collaboration and non-collaboration section. The tests will be time-limited, with the honor system used to enforce said time limit; time limits are likely to be about 12h for the whole test, with some appropriate division between non-collaboration and collaboration. The non-collaboration section will have a few quiz-like problems, while the collaboration section will contain some HW-like problems.

If you feel like these changes will adversely affect your performance in this class, please contact me within the next two weeks, and we can figure something out. If I don't hear from concerned students<sup>1</sup> by (say) the end of week 5, I will assume that all other students are OK with this proposed set of changes, and will be much less likely to accommodate individuals who express concerns after the fact.

---

<sup>1</sup>The reason for this request is a previous class I had, where a student decided that they objected to the take-home final (proposed in week 2 of the class) and wanted an in-class final. Which I understood! The thing is that they only made this desire known on the Friday of finals week after they left for home, which was... not *exactly* the right time to request these kinds of changes.