

Honors Calculus

Summer 2026

Welcome to Honors Calculus. I hope this course proves to be a challenging yet rewarding endeavor for you. Calculus will be unlike any other math class you may have taken, filled with new ideas, concepts, and applications.

While the material may be new, solving the problems that are presented in this course will require a strong foundation in problem solving. This summer assignment focuses on the skills that will be necessary to be successful in Calculus. All the problems in this packet require the tools that you have learned in Algebra and Precalculus.

Please read all directions carefully. All answers are to be placed on the last 3 pages in their designated spots. You are free to write on the packet, but please make sure your work is neat and organized. On some sections of this assignment, it is recommended that you not use a calculator.

This entire packet will be turned in on the September 1, 2026, first day of class and will be counted for a grade. If you would like to use scrap paper, you may attach all loose-leaf paper to the assignment and include it when you turn in your work.

If there are any questions or concerns that you may have during the summer, please feel free to e-mail me at twaltrich@gmahs.org. I would recommend that you do not do the entire packet at one time, but rather, spread out the assignment over the entire summer. And do not wait until the last minute to begin your work.

Best of luck to you this summer and I look forward to a great year.

Mr. Waltrich

Simplify the following statements.

1. $\frac{x^2 + 4x - 12}{x^2 + 6x - 16}$

2. $\frac{x^3 - 7x^2 - 8x}{x^3 - 8x^2 - 2x + 16}$

3. $\frac{x^3}{\sqrt{x}}$

4. $\left(125x^{2/3}\right)^{1/3}$

5. $e^{3+\ln x}$

6. $\ln e^{4x}$

Expand the following using the Laws of Logs.

7. $\log \frac{\sqrt{a}}{b}$

8. $\log \frac{\sqrt[3]{x^2}}{y^4}$

Find the following products.

9. $(3x + 4)(2x - 5)$

10. $(4x - 1)(4x + 1)$

11. $(5x - 3)(5x + 3)$

12. $(a + b)(a - b)$

13. $(x - 5)(x - 5)$

14. $(x + 7)(x + 7)$

15. $(x - 5)^2$

16. $(x + 4)^2$

17. $(2x - 1)^2$

18. $(x + y)^2$

Factor the following statements completely.

19. $2x^2 + x - 15$

20. $12x^2 - 19x - 18$

21. $8x^3 - 26x^2 + 17x + 6$

22. $x^4 - 8x^3 + 18x^2 - 27$

Solve the following equations. Give exact answers only.

23. $6x^2 - 17x + 7 = 0$

24. $20x^2 + 62x - 15 = 9$

25. $10x^2 - 36x - 9 = 7$

26. $x^2 - 21x - 60 = 0$

27. $6x^3 - 17x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$

28. $x^4 + 4x^3 + 6x^2 + 4x + 1 = 0$

Solve the following equations. Round answers to 4 decimal places.

29. $3\log_4(2x - 3) = 12$

30. $2 + 5\ln(3x) = 17$

31. $4^{2x-3} = 27$

32. $3e^{2x} - 11e^x - 4 = 0$

Answer the following word problems.

33. A wire 24 inches long is cut into 4 pieces to form a rectangle whose shortest side has length x . Express the area of the rectangle as a function of x . Determine the Domain and Range of the function.

34. The distance a ball travels when thrown vertically upward from ground level is

$$d(t) = -16t^2 + 48t$$

where t is the time in seconds and d is the distance in feet.

- a) Find the time when the ball reaches its maximum.
- b) What is the ball's maximum height?
- c) How long is the ball in the air?

35. Suppose you start driving away from Gwynedd Valley in a car at 12:00 noon. At any time x hours after your trip starts, your distance away from Gwynedd Valley (in miles) is given by the function

$$f(x) = -x^5 + 12x^4 - 54x^3 + 95x^2.$$

You drive for 5 hours.

- a) Draw a graph of this function. Use window $0 \leq x \leq 6$ and $-50 \leq y \leq 200$.
- b) Create a table, including all integer values of x from 0 to 6.
- c) Find $f(2)$. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- d) Find $f(4.5)$. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- e) Find the average rate of change of $f(x)$ from 1 to 2.5. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- f) Find the average rate of change of $f(x)$ from 1.5 to 2.5. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- g) Find the average rate of change of $f(x)$ from 1.9 to 2.1. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- h) Find the average rate of change of $f(x)$ from 1.99 to 2.01. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- i) Find the average rate of change of $f(x)$ from 1.999 to 2.001. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- j) Find the average rate of change of $f(x)$ from 1.9999 to 2.0001. Give units for the answer and interpret in terms of the problem.
- k) What do you notice about the values from g to j?

36. Fill in the following charts:

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2$$

x =	5	5.5	5.75	5.875	5.99	6.01	6.125	6.25	6.5	7
f(x) =										

a) What is $f(6)$?

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - x - 12}{x - 4}$$

x =	3	3.5	3.75	3.875	3.99	4.01	4.125	4.25	4.5	5
f(x) =										

b) Why does $f(4)$ give an error?

c) When x gets closer to 4, what value does the function approach?

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x} \quad (\text{use radian mode})$$

x =	-1	-0.1	-0.01	-0.001	0.001	0.01	0.1	1
f(x) =								

d) As x approaches 0, what does the value of $f(x)$ approach?

$$f(x) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^x$$

x =	-100000	-1000	-100	-10	-1	1	10	100	1000	1000000
f(x) =										

e) As x gets really large, what does the value of $f(x)$ approach?

f) As x gets really small, what does the value of $f(x)$ approach?

Answers:

1. _____

3. _____

5. _____

7. _____

9. _____

11. _____

13. _____

15. _____

17. _____

19. _____

21. _____

23. _____

25. _____

27. _____

29. _____

31. _____

2. _____

4. _____

6. _____

8. _____

10. _____

12. _____

14. _____

16. _____

18. _____

20. _____

22. _____

24. _____

26. _____

28. _____

30. _____

32. _____

Word Problems:

33. Area = _____

Domain = _____

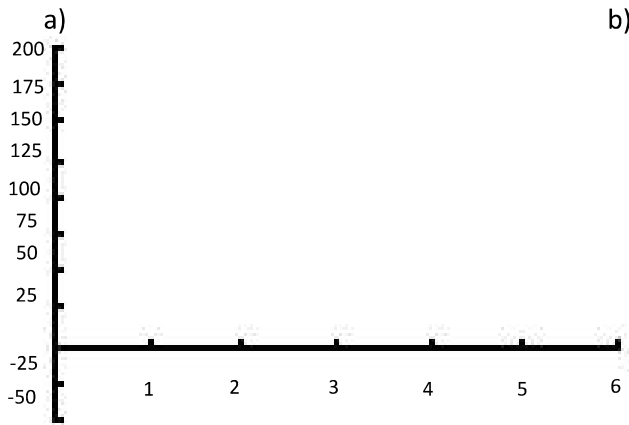
Range = _____

34. a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

35.



b)

x	f(x)
0	
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

g) _____

h) _____

i) _____

j) _____

k) _____

36.

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____