

Calculus Textbooks

* Anne Horn (annehorn@uic.edu):

What is your current favorite textbook to use for AP Calculus?

Can you recommend a textbook to use in a pre-calculus course to be taken in addition to, or in place of, IMP 4?

In the fall, a new academic magnet school is being opened in Chicago. One of our experienced IMP teachers (Jim Lynn) is the department chair and must select textbooks for a variety of students in grades 9 through 11. This will be an all-IMP school for the students taking the first three years of high school math. Eventually, it will be all-IMP for all students.

* Betsy Adams (sadams@DHVX20.CSUDH.EDU) on May 7, 1999:

I teach in an all-IMP school for grades 9 through 11. Our current calculus book is Calculus by Paul Forester. Our calculus teacher uses a discovery-approach that fits very well for our students.

* Maureen Burkhart (moeqib@DELTANET.COM) on May 7, 1999:

I had great success with the Hughes-Hallett "Harvard" Calculus. This text is written and recommended by the writers of the AP exam.

* Jim Short (jshort@OUHSD.K12.CA.US) on May 7, 1999:

Adding to what Moe Burkhart said, a second edition of the Hughes-Hallett book came out this past year that is, in my opinion, a big improvement over what was already a great text. Also, within the last two years, the same authors have brought out a pre-calculus text, Functions Modeling Change: A Preparation for Calculus. I was given an examination copy last year at NCTM, and it looks to be a great book.

* Chris Whalen (Whalens89@aol.com):

We are currently evaluating the purchase of a replacement text for AP Calculus. If any of you could let me know what text your school currently uses and what you think of it, we would appreciate it!!

* Rita Quintana (Rita_Quintana@CEO.CUDENVER.EDU) on June 13, 1999:

I have taught AP Calculus using the Hughes-Hallett calculus book (often referred to as the Harvard Calculus text) for the past 4 years. I used the second edition this past year. I highly recommend this text, especially the second edition. It is written with reform in mind and fits

nicely with the direction that the AP exam has gone the past couple of years. I really like the sequencing of the text, the theory of the derivative, the theory of the integral, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, and then all of the rules, shortcuts, and applications. The students get a big picture of calculus immediately. This gives the students a chance to do more involved problems sooner.

John Wiley in New York originally published it, but I think it now will be published by McDougal-Littell.

* Jim Lynn (jlynn@UIC.EDU) on February 22, 2000:

What calculus textbook(s) would you recommend? Which would be especially good for students coming out of a 3- or 4-year IMP sequence?

What do you think of Harvard Calculus (Hughes-Hallett), the Foerster text that Key Curriculum publishes, or the calculus text developed by Core Plus? (I am especially interested in feedback on this one, since I have not heard any discussion about it.)

* Mike Frantz (mike_frantz@BROOKLINE.MEC.EDU) on February 22, 2000:

We looked at the Harvard and Foerster textbooks for an AB course with a few IMP kids and some other kids who had not been in the AP sequence. We felt that the Harvard was a bit too challenging and went with the Foerster. We like it so far.

* Gene Hendricks (GeneH@sunnysideud.k12.az.us) on February 22, 2000:

I vote for HARVARD CONSORTIUM, all the way. We use it at our IMP-only high schools in Tucson, Arizona, and the University of Arizona uses it down the street. The IMP students appreciate the investigative, technological approach that is used. Besides, Dr. Hughes-Hallett is a professor at the University of Arizona now. Of course, this is my own biased preference!

* Maureen Burkhardt (moe1111gjb@EARTHLINK.NET) on February 23, 2000:

The Harvard Calculus is an excellent choice. The people who make the text are writers of the AP exam.

* Lorraine M. Burke (burkel001@hawaii.rr.com) on February 23, 2000:

I used the Harvard book at Ithaca College in Calculus I, and I think it is a good book for IMP kids. It seems to be more concept-based than some of the other books. I actually bought it bundled with a Project book, published by the Calculus Group at Ithaca College. I am not sure if the Project book is still available, but it correlated with the text and really got students thinking. It contained activities similar to the culminating activities in the IMP units or to POWs. As I think back, it was a really good way to see how calculus could actually be applicable!