

Approaching the course Mathematics

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Luciano Battaia

- Formerly teacher of maths and physics at Liceo Grigoletti Pordenone.
- Formerly teacher of maths at the Universities of Padova, Udine and Trieste.
- Currently teacher of maths, apart from this course, at the course of Mathematics for Design at ISIA Roma, Campus of Pordenone.

Se gli allievi non capiscono, il torto è dell'insegnante che non sa spiegare. Né vale addossare la responsabilità alle scuole inferiori. Dobbiamo prendere gli allievi così come sono, richiamare ciò che essi hanno dimenticato, o studiato sotto altra nomenclatura. Se l'insegnante tormenta i suoi alunni, e invece di cattivarsi il loro amore, eccita odio contro sè e la scienza che insegna, non solo il suo insegnamento sarà negativo, ma il dover convivere con tanti piccoli nemici sarà per lui un continuo tormento.

Giuseppe Peano (1858 – 1932).

- This is a first-year 12 credits undergraduate-level introductory course in Mathematics.
- Covered topics include: functions of one variable; differentiation; single-variable optimization; integration; functions of many variables; optimization in many variables; Lagrange multipliers, linear algebra.

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Purpose

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- Topics usually taught in secondary school are assumed to be well known, as well as all the topics covered by the course *Additional Learning Requirements in Mathematics*.
- In particular the chapters 1-5 of the textbook are assumed to be known. Only some topics of these chapters will be revised in the first two lessons.

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- Knuth Sydsæter, Peter Hammond, Arne Strøm & Andrés Carvajal, *Essential Mathematics for Economic Analysis*, Pearson, 2016 (V edition).
- Chapters 6-9 for Mathematics 1.
- Chapters 11-17 for Mathematics 2.

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- 3 weekly meetings - Teacher: Luciano Battaia
- 1 weekly practice session: Teacher assistants: Mesfin Geremiew Genie for Mathematics 1 and Aregawi Gebremarian for Mathematics 2. The first practice lesson will be on the 30th of September (this week there will not be a practice lesson).
- During the course some “Review homeworks” will be proposed. Extra exercises are proposed in the practice lessons: alle these are samples of exam exercises. Students are supposed to seriously tackle all in order to reach proficiency in study.
- Homeworks, as well other teaching material, will be made available in the instructor’s web page:
<http://www.batmath.it>. Follow the link “Corsi universitari” at the bottom of home page, and then the link that points to your course.

- Grading is based on a written exam.
- You need to score 18/30 to pass the exam.
- If you score 16/30 or more at the written exam, you can ask for a supplementary oral examination. It is understood that the final grade after the oral exam may be *lower or higher* than the grade achieved in the written exam.
- There will be 4 calls for the exam in a year: January (2 calls), June (1 call), September (1 call). One more call consists in two partial examinations taking place on 3rd November (4pm) and 21st December (2pm). Admission to the exams or to the partials is conditional on not having the “didactic debt” in mathematics.

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I wish you all the best!