

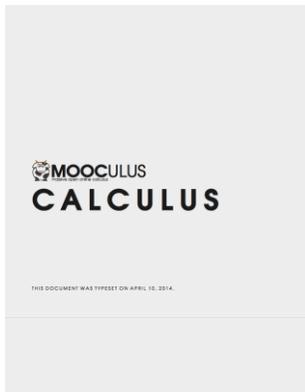


Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education (www.cool4ed.org). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextbooks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

Mooculus: Calculus



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Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

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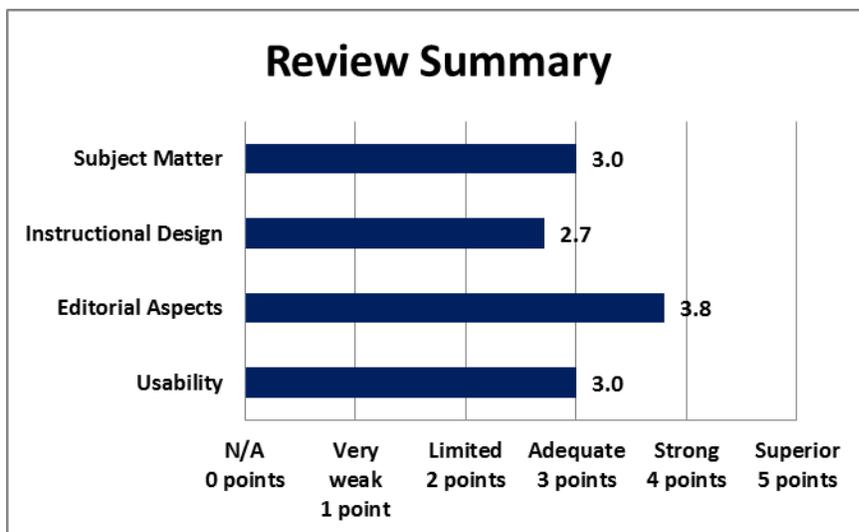
Professor

Format

Reviewed:

[Online](#)

A small fee may be associated with various formats.



Date Reviewed:

August 2015

California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [MATH 210](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?					X	
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?					X	
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?			X			

Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?					X	
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?					X	
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)	X					

Total Points: 18 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- The explanations are good, but:
 - Two examples may not be enough for some of the topics covered.
 - Also, again, like the Calculus - Early Transcendentals book, there are no real-world examples described or cited. This is a serious inadequacy.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?					X	
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)			X			
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?		X				
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?					X	
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?				X		
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)		X				
Is the textbook searchable?					X	

Total Points: 19 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

- The design is good. The graphs on the side of the page align well with the explanations and make it easy to understand the concept.
- However, the chapters don't have a 'lead-in' summary of concepts being covered or a summary at the end of the chapter. More importantly, there are no real-world examples of how the concepts will be used. This could at least have been provided at the end of each chapter.
- The facility to click on the arrow at the end of each problem and be taken to the corresponding answers page is good. However, there is no arrow to go back to which page you came from. You have to note down explicitly and then enter it into the page field to go back. This is not good navigation.
- There are no review exercises at the end of each chapter, no 'wrapping up' of the concepts covered etc.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?					X	
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?					X	
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)						X
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)					X	
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)			X			

Total Points: 19 out of 25

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook.

- The font type and size look good.

- The arrangement of the text, figures and highlighted boxes for important concepts are very good.
- The page layout and organization are visually engaging, and pleasant and inviting to read.
- The List of Main Theorems [in addition to the Table of Contents] with a link directly to that page is an excellent idea.
- Q 4: No citations and no further references.
- Q 5: No animations, no audio.

Usability (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?			X			
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)			X			
Can the textbook be printed easily?						X
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?			X			
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?					X	

Total Points: 15 out of 25

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook.

- Q 1: There is no information on how it can be integrated with different course management systems.
- Q 5: If it is downloaded as a pdf, you can annotate it easily.

Overall Ratings						
	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?				X		
	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
How willing would you be to adopt this book?				X		

Total Points: 6 out of 10

Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- Clear exposition, the use of extensive graphs to explain concepts is good. Some of the explanations, such as for the Squeeze Theorem, use a very good set of graphs that make it easy to understand the main concept of the Squeeze Theorem.
- The font-face, size etc. are very pleasant.
- Navigation is pretty easy.
- The arrow at the end of each problem which takes you directly to the answer is an excellent idea.
- The number of exercise problems is large and many do relate to real-world problems.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- These need to be incorporated or improved:
 - No summary of real-world situations that use the concept covered in the chapter, at the beginning of the chapter.
 - No enumeration of main concepts covered in the chapter at the beginning of the chapter.
 - No summary at the end of the chapter.
 - No Group Activities.
 - No 'projects' relating to real-world applications.
 - No animation or video clips.
 - No references or citations.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to the textbook site in MERLOT
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