

## Mathematical Methods in Physics

Spring 2008—Course 0156-301-001  
Blodgett 207, MWF 11:00-11:50 am

**Text:** Mathematical Methods in the Physical Sciences, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Boas

**Instructor:** Sean Bentley  
8H Blodgett Hall  
Phone: 4878  
bentley@adelphi.edu

**Office Hours:** MW 2-3:30; TR 10:30-12  
Feel free to come by other times or make an appointment if necessary.  
Questions via email I will attempt to answer ASAP.

**Topics:** Ch 9-12, 14-15  
Calculus of Variations  
Coordinate Transformations & Tensor Analysis  
Special Functions  
Complex Analysis  
Probability & Statistics  
Other topics based on time & interest

**Grades:** Homework—15%  
In-Class Exams (3)—20% each for total of 60%  
Final Exam—25%

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned approximately once a week.  
Grades will be based largely on *attempting* the problems, not only your answers!  
The rationale behind the homework grading is to encourage you to try  
all the problems as they will help you on exams, rather than copying them  
which won't help you at all.

**Attendance:** Attendance is important, and as such for every two unexcused  
absences your course grade will be reduced by 2%. Being late  
by more than 5 minutes will count as 0.5 absence.

**Exams:** No calculators, books, or notes will be allowed on the exams.  
For some material, tables will be given (I don't feel memorization is useful).