The textbook that we are using for this course is available online in this directory (at no charge) via the link Calculus Concentrate. It is not available in the bookstore. It is important to note that other sections of Math 125 may be using a different textbook. The syllabus for the fall semester is also available in this directory using the obvious link.

BEGINNING OF ASSIGNMENT THAT IS DUE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31.

    I. Read the syllabus carefully.

   II. Return to the page `http://people.whitman.edu/~gordon/` and read the material at the link Advice for Students.

  III. Read the preface of the textbook.

  IV. Skim the first few sections of the textbook to get a sense for the style of the book.

END OF ASSIGNMENT

As far as the textbook is concerned, you have several options. First of all, you will be able to make it through the first class period without a copy of the book so you can just wait until later in the week to do any printing at all. Also, if your schedule changes and you end up in a different section of calculus, you will probably be using a different textbook.

1. The content of Math 125 consists of Chapter 1 of the textbook. You can print out the first few sections of Chapter 1 (or all of Chapter 1 once you know for certain that you will be in this class for the entire semester) from any printer on campus (please use two-sided copying to save some trees) then hole punch the pages and put them in a binder. If you print the text as it is, each open page of your binder will reveal an entire section of the text. Since you will not need Chapters 2 or 3 this semester, there is no need to print them at this time (again, to save paper).

2. If you are so inclined you can opt to read and study the text online and keep notes in some other form. Please keep your learning style in mind as you make a decision as to whether or not to print the textbook. Choose a format that works well for you.

3. Solutions (just numerical answers) to the problems are available at the end of the book in Appendix C. There is also a very brief review of algebra and geometry in Appendix A. For those of you who want or need further help with algebra, trigonometry, exponents, and logarithms, the website
`http://tutorial.math.lamar.edu/Extras/AlgebraTrigReview/AlgebraTrigIntro.aspx`
may prove helpful to you. I discovered this one after a very brief Google search: I am certain you can find other websites of this nature.

4. As far as calculators are concerned, I do not insist on any particular type. In fact, many of the quizzes and exams will not allow the use of calculators and in those instances when calculators are allowed, I will request that you not use them for symbolic manipulation or data storage. (More explanation on calculator use will be provided later).

For the record, if you have had calculus in high school and are only repeating this class in order to fulfill Whitman's quantitative analysis requirement, then I am inclined to think that you are wasting your tuition money and using your time unwisely. There are many other courses that fulfill this distribution area and you can learn something new in them, not simply cover familiar ground.