I have dreamed for a long time about changing a popular resource that you have been using in your classroom. I finally tackled it and I am quite excited about it. I am completely redoing the AB Calculus manual and solution!

This manual was created in the late 90’s. It is showing its age. While the calculus hasn’t changed and the curriculum is pretty much the same, the manual uses graphics that, although adequate, are not up to today’s standards.

For technical reasons (I used a defunct word processor) when I created the manual, nothing from the existing manual could be saved. It had to be completely rewritten. My dread of the project quickly turned to an opportunity to rethink how material is presented, what order of topics to use, what problems could be used from the previous edition, and what needed to be newly created. This means that the new version is more than just a few random changes. I can tell you that when complete, you are going to have a manual that is worlds above what you have been using!

Here are some, but not all of the changes that the new manual will incorporate:

• Introduction of topics that were not part of the original manual including the intermediate value theorem, the extreme value theorem, linear approximations, the second derivative test and l’Hospital’s rule (in anticipation of the revised AP exam in 2017).
• A revision of order. Many of you have written to me asking that natural logs and exponentials be covered earlier in the course. I have granted those wishes and now we cover most of the derivative techniques before any integration is attempted.
• The manual will have two major sections: Essential topics and Non-Essential topics. In the Essential topics, every topic that is on the AP exam is covered. In Non-Essentials, such subjects as Newton’s Method, differentials, volume by shells, logarithmic differentiation, and others are covered for teachers who have time or believe that those topics are important to a student’s total mastery of calculus.
• Every problem that needs a graphing calculator to solve will be signaled.
• There will be a “helpful hints” section that gives extra insight on how to approach certain problems.

Certain aspects of the old manual will not change:

• All topics will still have a classwork/homework section.
• There will still be 1-1 ratio between the student version and solution version. If the students are on page 44, then the solutions to those problems are on page 44 of the solution version.
• The student version will still be free.
• The solution version will still cost $99.95. Packages containing the new solution manual will have the same prices.
I know there are thousands of teachers throughout the world who are using this manual. Believe me when I say the new manual is going to be a vast improvement over the previous manual. I know you will enjoy teaching from it and the students will love using it.

Regards,

Stu

PS. The BC manual is also being overhauled and expected to be complete by March, 2017.
Many members of the MasterMathMentor community have used my Calculus manual for years. For those who are not familiar with it, I urge you to check it out on the MasterMathMentor website.

In short, though, the manual is a workbook for students and teachers that, in many cases, negates the need for an expensive textbook. You xerox the student version, students carry it daily to class and have a wealth of classwork problems (that you use to illustrate concepts). There are also a good number of homework problems (that are similar to the classwork problems). Students who use the manual swear by it and teachers love using it as lessons are completely planned for them. The manual is free and the solution to the manual is available on the website at a very reasonable price. There is a BC manual as well as AB manual and thousands of teachers use it.

This manual was created in the late 90’s. It is showing its age. While the calculus hasn’t changed and the curriculum is pretty much the same, the manual uses graphics that, although adequate, are not up to today’s standards. Certain important topics were not covered or mentioned only in passing. I finally decided to bite the bullet and rewrite the manual.

For technical reasons (I used a defunct word processor) when I created the manual, nothing from the existing manual could be saved. It had to be completely rewritten. My dread of the project quickly turned to an opportunity to rethink how material is presented, what order of topics to use, what problems could be used from the previous edition, and what needed to be newly created. This means that the new version is more than just a few random changes. While only 50% of the manual is currently written, I can tell you that when complete, this new manual will be worlds above the old one and something you are going to want to have!

Here are some, but not all of the changes that the new manual will incorporate:

• Introduction of topics that were not part of the original manual including the intermediate value theorem, the extreme value theorem, linear approximations, the second derivative test and l’Hospital’s rule (in anticipation of the revised AP exam in 2017).
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• The manual will have two major sections: Essential topics and Extra topics. In the Essential topics, every topic that is on the AP exam is covered. In Extra topics, such subjects as Newton’s Method, differentials, volume by shells, logarithmic differentiation, and others are covered for teachers who have time or believe that those topics are important to a student’s total mastery of calculus.
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- The student version will still be free.
- The solution version will still cost $99.95. Packages containing the new solution manual will have the same prices.

If you purchased the solution version previously, you will be able to purchase the new solution version at a drastically reduced price. When the new manual is ready (expected completion date is January, 2016), you will receive an email inviting you to purchase the solution manual for $24.95. That offer will be available for a month and then the price will revert to $99.95.

I know there are thousands of teachers throughout the world who are using this manual. Believe me when I say the new manual is going to be a vast improvement over the previous manual. I know you will enjoy teaching from it and the students will love using it.

Regards,

Stu

PS. The BC manual will also be overhauled and expected to be complete by June, 2016.