

10/6/09

Motion on Changing the Math Pre-requisite for 059:009 (Thermodynamics)

The Curriculum Committee moves that the core course 059:009 (Thermodynamics), the math pre-requisite be changed from 22M:032 (Multi-variable Calculus) to 22M:031 (Single-variable Calculus).

Rationale for Motion

Concepts from 22M:032 are found in the Thermodynamics textbook only twice (i.e., heat capacity defined as a partial derivative and work defined as a vector); however, all examples in the course are one-dimensional. Thus, multivariable calculus is not needed at this time when the focus of the course is on engineering understanding of the concepts.