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Calculus: A Liberal Art

By W. M. Priestley

Springer Mai 1998, 1998. Buch. Book Condition: Neu. 235x155x27 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Titel. - This is a serious - but not solemn - textbook that attempts to make a clear, conceptual understanding of calculus accessible to all liberal arts students. It presents mathematics as growing out of the classical liberal arts to form a natural bridge between the humanities and the sciences, integrating the history and pedagogy of mathematics in a way that may be of interest to prospective teachers as well. Instead of a pre-calculus review, this book offers an historical development of much of the geometry and algebra needed, emphasizing the fundamental need for students to develop a clear style of writing. Calculus is here largely restricted to the study of algebraic functions, but all the usual aspects of the interplay between functions and derivatives are covered: optimization, instantaneous rates, Newton's method, freely falling bodies, antiderivatives, integrals, areas, volumes, etc. The fundamental theorem is prominently featured and carefully treated. A brief final chapter about the intellectual climate surrounding the development of calculus offers students further insight into the place of mathematics as an element in the history of thought. 426...



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