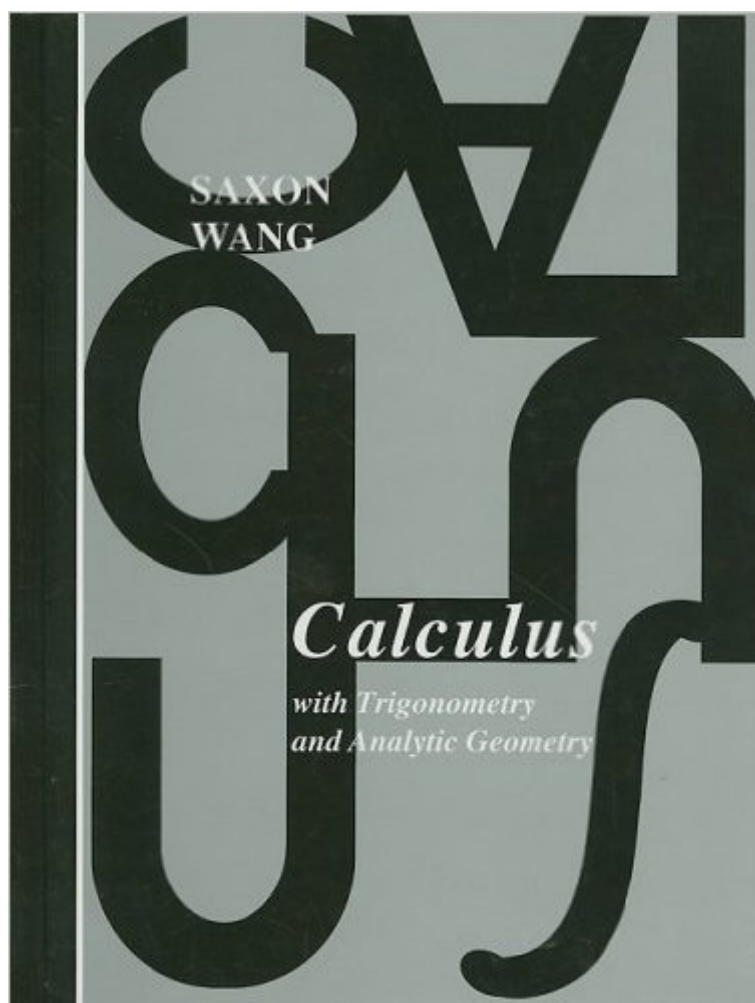


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Calculus With Trigonometry And Analytic Geometry



Book Information

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The bottom line: if you want an "unfair" advantage over other math students, or if you are a teacher who wants your math students to have an "unfair" advantage, use the Saxon advanced math texts. In essence, Saxon texts teach advanced math as a language. At present, all other serious texts teach advanced math as a formalism, a grammar. Analogously, other advanced math books present examples of the present tense the first week, then examples of nouns the second, etc. By contrast, Saxon texts make you speak sentences using the present tense every day, throughout the year. The newer Saxon-style "language" instructional paradigm is far more consistent with consensus empirical cognitive research than is the traditional math formalism/grammar model, as well as probably being more consistent with your own intuition and past experience: grammar books may be very good at describing a language, but they are inherently not very good at training you to speak it. The Saxon calculus text is tough, accurate, and makes profuse use of "classic" problems to teach. It just doesn't look like a grammar book, or even aspire to be one. That is apparently sufficient to bewilder, even repulse, some math educators. Saxon detractors suspicious of its basic pedagogy are welcome to perform the mountains of painstaking basic research that would be necessary to overturn fundamental tenets in cognitive science, such as the general superiority of "distributed" (Saxon-style) practice over "massed" (traditional-style) practice. The Nobel prizes critics would garner would of course be mere icing on the cake. But it's actually easy to demolish the

fundamental argument of Saxon critics.

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