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# Math 101: Mathematical Ideas

Fall 2009

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Section 3  
TR 2:45–4 PM  
124 Koch Center  
<http://faculty.evansville.edu/ct55>

**Course Description.** From the catalog: “Explores a variety of topics, including numeration systems, logic, geometry, probability and statistics. Includes historical and cultural perspective and contemporary applications. Background should include two semesters of high school algebra.”

**Course Objectives.** This course is designed to introduce non-majors to topics of mathematics they probably have not seen before and that pertain to everyday situations. The successful student will gain the confidence and ability to utilize basic math skills in a variety of applications. The goals of this course include improving mathematical literacy; developing an appreciation of the order and utility of mathematics; improving critical thinking and problem solving skills; and enhancing the ability to effectively communicate mathematics, both in writing and orally. Additionally, this course satisfies the Mathematical Thought component of the University’s General Education requirement.

**Required Text.** Karl J. Smith, *The Nature of Mathematics*, 11th ed., Thomson, Brooks/Cole, 2007; an optional solution manual is available. We will be covering sections of chapters 1–4, 9 and 11–14. Reading assignments, as well as exercises, will be given from the text. You are expected to read the text regularly and to read sections before they are covered in class.

**Office Hours.** I will be available in my office at the following times: MTRF 11–11:50 AM, MF 2–4 PM, TR 4–5 PM; additional times can be arranged by appointment.

**Exams.** There will be three in-class exams, worth 100 points each; dates will be announced in class, at least two weeks prior to the exam. Review sessions will be held prior to each exam. A cumulative final, worth 100 points, will be given on Thursday, December 10 at 2:45 PM.

**Quizzes.** There will be (at least) twelve ten-point quizzes given throughout the semester; the highest ten scores will count towards your final grade. Generally, quizzes will be given on weeks we do not have an exam; however, quizzes may be unannounced.

**Projects.** There will be four projects worth 25 points each. The projects will apply the techniques learned in class in real-world (or minimally pseudo-real-world) scenarios. The projects will be graded based on both mathematical accuracy, and written explanation and analysis of the solution.

**Homework.** Exercises will be assigned to accompany the material covered in class. Homework will not be collected; however, you *will* see similar problems on the tests and quizzes. Completion of the assignments is essential to success in this class.

**Attendance.** You are responsible for any information (including announcements) that you miss. The course website will have up-to-date information. Arriving late or leaving early, reading the newspaper, text-messaging, etc., disrupts the class and is rude and unprofessional.

**Course Grades.** Your grade in the course will be based on the 600 points described above. The class will be graded on a ten point scale; pluses and minuses will be influenced by such factors as attendance and participation.

**Make-up Policy.** An opportunity to make up a missed exam will only be granted in the event of a *documented* emergency or illness. **A make-up will not be granted, if I am not contacted prior to the exam.** If you anticipate a conflict with an announced exam, speak with me as soon as possible. Quizzes missed because of University excused absences or documented emergencies will be handled on an individual basis. Make-ups will not be granted, regardless of the circumstances, to students with excessive absences.

**Extra Credit.** There will be no extra credit assignments.

**Academic Honesty.** Cheating will not be tolerated. We will follow the University's honor code, which reads "I will neither give nor receive unauthorized aid, nor will I tolerate an environment which condones the use of unauthorized aid." Collaboration on homework assignments and projects is encouraged; note that work to be submitted for a grade should be your own and not copied from a fellow student.

**Students with Disabilities.** It is the policy and practice of the University to make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification to faculty from the Office of Counseling and Health Education is required for any academic accommodations. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please discuss it with me and allow two weeks notice. If you have questions about services for students with disabilities or procedures for requesting services, you may contact the Office of Counseling and Health Education at 488-2663.

**Disclaimer.** I reserve the right to change the dates and policies outlined above at my discretion. Any changes will be announced well in advance.