

MA111 Syllabus
Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics
Fall 2008

- Instructor:** Ping Zhang
Patterson Office Tower(POT) 722
pzhang@ms.uky.edu
- Office Hours:** T: 11:00am-12:00am at Mathskeller
R: 11:00am-12:00am at POT 722
I will also be available by appointment.
- Text:** *Excursions in Modern Mathematics with Mini-Excursions, custom edition for the University of Kentucky*, 2008, by Peter Tannenbaum
- Class Times:** Section 001, Tues/Thurs 8:00am – 9:15am, CB 335
Section 002, Tues/Thurs 9:30am – 10:45am, CB335
- Grading:** We will use the standard 10 point scale, i.e., an A is 90-100, B is 80-89, C is 70-79, etc. Any necessary scale adjustments will be made at the end of the semester (naturally, however, if you end up with over 90% you are guaranteed an A, 80% for B, etc). The grades will be based on the following:
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|-----|-------------------|----------|
| 20% | Test 1 | (Oct 2) |
| 20% | Test 2 | (Nov 6) |
| 20% | Final Exam | (Dec 16) |
| 35% | Homework, quizzes | |
| 5% | Attendance | |
- Please note that the final is not cumulative
- Homework, etc:** The homework will consist of two parts: hand-in problems and recommended problems. But due to the amount of grading work, we only grade some selected problem for completeness and correctness. Since the method you used to arrive at the answer is just as important as the answer itself, I expect to see clearly written, legible solutions. Homework will be due at the end of each class.
- Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class. You will not be allowed to make-up any work that you miss due to an absence unless the absence is excused by the university or there are extraordinary circumstances surrounding your absence. If you believe that your absence should be excused, you **MUST** inform me that you are going to be absent **PRIOR** to class time by sending me an email message (of course, exception apply for emergencies)
- Important Dates:** Last day to add: Sep 3
Last day to drop: Sep 17
Last day to withdraw: Nov 7
Labor Day: Sep 1

Election Day: Nov 4
Thanksgiving Break: Nov 26-29
Last day of Classes: Dec 12

- Calculators:** Calculators may be used on quizzes and exams. However, you do not need a graphing calculator—a scientific calculator is fine—and you may not use a machine with symbolic manipulation (for example TI-89's, TI-92's, HP-48's, laptops) on quizzes or exams. If you do use a graphing calculator on a quiz or exam be aware that I may erase its memory.
- Mathskeller:** Mathskeller is a place where you may want to get together with other students and work on problems, or meet with a free tutor. Mathskeller offices are located in the basement of the Classroom Building (CB 65) and in room B-25 in Young Library. See <http://www.mathskeller.com> for hours of operation and directions.
- Cheating:** The minimum penalty for cheating on a quiz or exam is a failing grade in the course. Working together on homework is highly encouraged, but directly copying answers is considered cheating.
- Tentative Schedule:** We will chapters 1,2, 5, 6, 9,10 and mini-Excursion 3 in detail. If time permits, we will cover other topics that will be discussed later in the semester.