

# Course Syllabus

MA 111

Instructor: **Matthew Wells**  
Office hours: T and Th : 3 p.m.- 4p.m. or by appt.  
Office: 902 Patterson Office Tower  
E-mail address: [mwells@ms.uky.edu](mailto:mwells@ms.uky.edu)

Office phone number: 257-7216

**Course:** Ma 111: *Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics*

**Semester:** Fall 2008

**Textbook:** Excursions in Modern Mathematics by Peter Tannenbaum

**Meeting Times:**

**Section 003:** T-Th 11:00 a.m. -12:15 p.m.

**Section 004:** T-Th 12:30 p.m. -1:45 p.m.

**Classroom:** CB 335

**Credits:** 3

**Course Description:** An introduction to concepts and applications of mathematics, with examples drawn from such areas as voting methods, apportionment, consumer finance, graph theory, tilings, polyhedra, number theory, and game theory. This course is not available for credit to persons who have received credit in any mathematics course of a higher number with the exceptions of MA 112, 123, 162, 201 and 202. This course does not serve as a prerequisite for any calculus course. Credit not available on the basis of special examination.

**Prerequisites:** Two years of high school algebra and a Math ACTE score of 19 or above, or MA 108R, or math placement test.

**Participation (50 pts):** Your grade will ultimately be dependent upon attending class and participation. As such, I will be monitoring attendance randomly throughout the semester. This will count towards your grade (see grade breakdown). You will be allowed 2 unexcused absences. Every unexcused absence after these 2 will result in a 10 point deduction from the overall attendance grade. I strongly encourage you to get involved. If you are to miss a class, it is YOUR responsibility to make sure any assignments get to me before the end of the class period in which the assignment is due, as well as get any notes or future assignments from a classmate.

**Homework (70 pts):** Homework assignments will be a vital part of this course. I will try to assign a few homework problems every day. I will collect homework on Thursday of every week, which will be graded as follows: 1 pt for neatness, 1 pt for making any attempt at all the assigned problems, 1 pt for rigorous attempt at the problems, and I will grade a few of the problems for the final 2 pts (I choose which problems to grade). Therefore, there are 5 pts for each homework collection. There are 16 total homework collections, so I will drop the two lowest scores. I encourage working with others, but you are responsible for writing up the assignment in your **own words**. Additionally, I expect relevant work to be shown and completeness in answers. Once the due date has passed, I will not accept homework (unless it is a university excused absence).

**Quizzes (80 pts):** I will administer a 10-15 minute quiz on 8 selected days throughout the semester. Each quiz will be worth 10 pts. Only university excused absences will be allowed to complete a make-up quiz.

**Exams (400 pts):** There will be two exams throughout the semester and one final exam, thus making a total of 3 exams. The exams will cover only the material learned from the previous exams (i.e. they are not cumulative, even the final). If a conflict arises and you cannot take an exam, please contact me **BEFORE** the exam. I am always available via my contact information above, so I see no reason as to why you cannot contact me. The dates of the exams are given in the topics overview. All exams will be in-class exams. Cheating on an exam could result in serious consequences. Make-ups will not be given unless you have a university excused absence and have made contact with me before the exam. The breakdown of the exam scores is given below:

**Grading:** Overall score is based off of the usual ten point scale (90%-100% is an A, etc...). Your grade is calculated as follows:

Exam 1:	100 pts
Exam 2:	100 pts
Final Exam:	100 pts
Attendance:	50 pts
Quizzes:	80 pts
Homework:	70 pts
Final Grade	500 pts

Below is a **tentative** day by day schedule of what we are going to cover. Since this is the first time we have used this book, we could easily deviate from this at any point; this schedule is not set in stone.

### Day by Day topics:

Day	Date	Sec.	Topic	Comments
Thursday	Aug 28	1	Chapter 1	
Tuesday	Sept 2	1	Chapter 1	Sept 3 = last day to add a class
Thursday	Sept 4	1	Chapter 1	Quiz
Tuesday	Sept 9	1	Chapter 1	
Thursday	Sept 11	1	Chapter 1	
Tuesday	Sept 16	2	Chapter 2	Sept 17 = last day to drop
Thursday	Sept 18	2	Chapter 2	Quiz
Tuesday	Sept 23	2	Chapter 2	
Thursday	Sept 25	2	Chapter 2	Quiz
Tuesday	Sept 30	2	Chapter 2	
Thursday	Oct 2		<b>EXAM I</b>	
Tuesday	Oct 7	5	Chapter 5	
Thursday	Oct 9	5	Chapter 5	Quiz
Tuesday	Oct 14	5	Chapter 5	
Thursday	Oct 16	5	Chapter 5	
Tuesday	Oct 21	6	Chapter 6	
Thursday	Oct 23	6	Chapter 6	Quiz
Tuesday	Oct 28	6	Chapter 6	
Thursday	Oct 30	6	Chapter 6	Quiz
Tuesday	Nov 4		<b>NO CLASS: Election Day</b>	
Thursday	Nov 6		<b>EXAM II</b>	
Tuesday	Nov 11	9	Chapter 9	
Thursday	Nov 13	9	Chapter 9	Quiz
Tuesday	Nov 18	9	Chapter 9	
Thursday	Nov 20	9	Chapter 9	
Tuesday	Nov 25	9	Chapter 9	
Thursday	Nov 27		<b>NO CLASS: Thanksgiving Break</b>	
Tuesday	Dec 2	10	Chapter 10	
Thursday	Dec 4	10	Chapter 10	Quiz
Tuesday	Dec 9	10	Chapter 10	
Thursday	Dec 11	10	Chapter 10	Dec12 = Last day of classes
Tuesday	Dec 16		<b>Section 004: FINAL EXAM in CB 335</b>	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Friday	Dec 19		<b>Section 003: FINAL EXAM in CB 335</b>	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.