

**MA 111: Intro to Contemporary Mathematics, Section 003 (Fall 2017)**

**Instructor:** Luvreet Sangha

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**Office Hours:** MWF 11am-12pm, TuTh 12-1:30pm all in Mathskeller (CB 063), or by appointment

**Class Time and Location:** MWF 10:00am – 10:50am, CP 220 (Chemistry-Physics Building)

**Canvas:** All course information including this syllabus, grades, etc. will be posted on Canvas. Your login is your link blue ID (like word226).

**Textbook:** None!! A textbook is **not required**.

Here is link to Prof. Nguyen's Math 111 course webpage that has slides on the material (these have different examples than the ones we do in class but this is a good resource): <http://ms.uky.edu/~ndng224/MA111/> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

**Grading:** You will be evaluated in the course in the areas below, weighted as follows.

Participation	10%
Project	9%
Homework	15%
Three best Mini-Exams	21% (7% each)
Three best Exams	45% (15% each)

(One mini-exam score and one exam score will be dropped from your final grade.)

Your overall letter grade will be based on the following percentages below. I may lower the cutoffs depending on the difficulty of exams, but I won't raise them.

A 90%-100%      B 80%-89%      C 70%-79%      D 60%-69%      E less than 60%

**Important Semester Dates:**

The following is a list of important dates for the Fall 2017 semester:

- Wednesday, August 23: First day of classes
- Tuesday, August 29: Last day to add a class
- Monday, September 4: Labor Day break (academic holiday)
- Wednesday, September 13: Last day to drop a class without receiving a grade

- Friday, November 10: Last day to withdraw from a class
- Tuesday, November 7: Presidential Election Day (no class)
- November 22-24: Thanksgiving Break (no class)
- Friday, December 8: Last day of classes

**Participation:** Almost every class day that we don't have an exam, we will have a worksheet or brief quiz that contributes to your participation grade.

**Project:** This portion of your grade will be earned by completing a written project. I will go into more detail about the project in the middle of the semester.

**Homework:** This portion of your grade will be earned by completing individual assignments outside of class. These assignments will be mainly online at

<https://webwork.as.uky.edu/webwork2/MA111-F17-Sangha/> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

WebWork is free to students. Your login is your link blue ID (like word226) and your password is initially your student number **without the leading 9**. Homework deadlines will be announced in class and posted on the course website.

**Mini-Exams:** We will have a mini-exam midway through each of the four topics. They are designed more to give you an idea of the progress that you are making with the material. We will spend 20-25 minutes on mini-exam days, then cover new material. Your lowest mini-exam grade will get dropped.

**Exams:** We will have four exams throughout the semester, one for each of the topics we cover. Your lowest exam grade will get dropped.

#### **Exam and Mini-Exam Dates:**

The following is a list of exam dates for the Fall 2017 semester (TENTATIVE!):

- Mini-Exam 1 Wednesday, September 6
- Exam 1 Wednesday, September 20
- Mini-Exam 2 Wednesday, October 4
- Exam 2 Wednesday, October 18
- Mini-Exam 3 Wednesday, November 1
- Exam 3 Monday, November 13
- Mini-Exam 4 Monday, December 4
- Exam 4 (Final): Thursday, December 14 1:00pm - 3:00 pm

**Course Help:** If you find that you need help with the course or simply are looking for a place to study, please take advantage of my office hours! My office hours are basically an informal place for people to come in and study, and as questions come up I am there to help. If the posted office hours do not work with your schedule please ask about an appointment. Free tutoring can be found in the Mathskeller, CB 063, M-F, 9-5, <http://www.ms.uky.edu/~mathskeller/> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site..

Other resources (like The Study, your math major roommate, etc.) can also be good, but not nearly as good as the resources listed above.

**Note on Calculators:** Please see this page for a description of permitted calculators which may be used on exams and mini-exams: <https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/taking-the-test/calculator-policy.html> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site. You do not need a graphing calculator for this course; you will only need a basic calculator that can do addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and exponents.

### **Math 111 Course Goals:**

- To expose students to a variety of mathematical topics, many of which they would never see in a traditional algebra-based math class.
- To encourage students to persist in solving problems and to develop an appreciation for the beauty of mathematical solutions.
- To recognize the value of mathematics in solving a variety of practical (and fun!) problems in society and culture.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** This course will be an introduction to some modern mathematical methods in application to real life problems. It is expected that by the end of the semester, students will acquire an informal understanding of a variety of new mathematical methods and will be able to appreciate their power and beauty. By the end of the semester, students should be able to demonstrate a proficiency in the application of mathematical knowledge for modeling solutions to questions drawn from real life.

### **Rules and Regulations**

**UK Core:** This course satisfies the Quantitative Foundations requirement of the UK Core General Education program, <http://www.uky.edu/ukcore/> (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

**Excused Absences:** See University Senate Rule 5.2.4.2 for what is considered an excused absence and official requirements. If you are participating in something planned, please inform me before you miss a class. If something unexpected happens, please inform me as soon as possible. You must provide appropriate documentation within a week of the missed day, and earlier for planned activities.

**Academic Integrity, Cheating, and Plagiarism:** You should feel free to study with friends, but any work you submit for a grade should be your own work. This applies to all exams, quizzes, and writing assignments, with the exception of assignments that are specifically designated as group assignments. Academic dishonesty, in any form, **will not be tolerated**. This includes, but is not limited to, copying a classmate's work, allowing a classmate to copy your work, modifying an exam after it has been handed back in an attempt to deceive the instructor into believing the assignment was graded incorrectly, and using cell phones during an exam. A student found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic E on the assignment, and in some cases the offense may lead to an E for the course, academic probation, or even expulsion.

See **sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 of the University Senate Rules** ([Links to an external site.](#))[Links to an external site.](#) for more information regarding academic integrity.

**Disability Accommodations:** If you have documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Suite 407, Multidisciplinary Science Building, 859-257-2754, email address [drc@uky.edu](mailto:drc@uky.edu)) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.