

MA 111-005 Syllabus

Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics, Fall 2008

Instructor: Beth Kirby

- Email: ekirby@ms.uky.edu
- Office: POT 702
- Office Hours: T 2-3:30 in the Mathskeller; R 11-12:30 in POT 702
- Website: www.ms.uky.edu/~ekirby/ma111

Course Information

- Lecture: TR 12:30-1:45 pm in CB 337
- Textbook: *Excursions in Modern Mathematics with Mini-Excursions*, custom edition for UK, by Peter Tannenbaum
- Prerequisites: Two years of high school algebra and a Math ACT score of 19 or above, or MA 108R, or math placement test. 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.

Grading

- **Homework (35%)**: Homework questions will be assigned for each lecture and collected at the beginning of the following class. Up to two times, you may turn in an assignment one day late with no penalty. After that, points will be taken off for late work. Assignments that are more than two days late will receive no credit.
- **Exams (60%)**: There will be two midterms and a final exam, each worth 20% of your grade. These exams will take place during our regular lecture time. The dates and material to be covered are as follows (these details are subject to change):
 - Exam 1: Tuesday, September 30: Chapters 1 and 2, and parts of Chapter 3
 - Exam 2: Thursday, November 6: Chapters 5 and 6
 - Exam 3: Tuesday, December 16: Chapters 9 and 10, and Mini-Excursion 3
- **Attendance (5%)**: Attendance will be taken each day, and you are expected to attend all lectures. You may have two unexcused absences before you start losing attendance points.
- **Grading Scheme**: Your letter grade will be determined by the standard scheme: 90-100% for an A, 80-89% for a B, etc.

Additional Comments

- Homework: You may work on the homework assignments with your fellow students. In fact, this is encouraged, as talking about math often improves understanding. However, you should carefully write up your own solutions and indicate which of your classmates you worked with. Your solutions to all assigned problems should be legible, orderly, and written in complete sentences when appropriate.
- Announcements: Check the course website at www.ms.uky.edu/~ekirby/ma111 for announcements or changes to the schedule. I may occasionally send these announcements via email as well.
- Make-Up Exams: Make-up exams will not be given unless you have documentation for a legitimate excuse. See the University Senate Rules on excused absences.
- Academic Honesty: Cheating is a serious offense and is grounds for failing an assignment or the course. Remember that your homework assignments must be written up in your own words.
- Getting Help: While you are welcome at my office hours any time, we may also arrange other times to meet if you need extra help. Email me or talk to me after class. I will also answer questions about homework assignments via email, but I may not reply to emails I receive after 9 pm until the next day.

You can also seek help at the Mathskeller, located in CB 63 (in the basement of the classroom building). The Mathskeller is open from 9 am to 5 pm each Monday through Friday. For a schedule of tutors available there, visit www.mathskeller.com.

If you start to feel you are falling behind, please let me know so that we can discuss the problem and how to fix it.

Important Dates

September 3: Last day to add a class

September 17: Last day to drop a class without a grade

November 4: Academic holiday (Be sure to vote!)

November 7: Last day to withdraw

November 26-29: Academic holiday

December 16, 10:30-12:30: Final Exam

I'm looking forward to a great semester!