

Course Syllabus

MA 111

Instructor: **Matthew Wells**
Office hours: T & Th : 5 p.m.- 6p.m. or by appt.
Th: 2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. in MathSkeller
Office: 902 Patterson Office Tower
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Office phone number: 257-7216

Course: Ma 111: *Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics*

Semester: Spring 2009

Textbook: Excursions in Modern Mathematics by Peter Tannenbaum

Meeting Times:

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

Section 401: T-Th 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

Classroom: CB 337

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 14 total homework collections at 5 pts a piece. 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). If excused, you have two class periods to hand in the assignment before I will not accept it.

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 (within 2 class periods of the quiz date).

Exams (300 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. Exams need to be made up within 2 class periods. 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. 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	Jan 15	1	Chapter 1	
Tuesday	Jan 20	1	Chapter 1	Jan 21 = last day to add a class
Thursday	Jan 22	1	Chapter 1	Quiz
Tuesday	Jan 27	1	Chapter 1	
Thursday	Jan 29	1	Chapter 1	
Tuesday	Feb 3	2	Chapter 2	Feb 4 = last day to drop
Thursday	Feb 5	2	Chapter 2	Quiz
Tuesday	Feb 10	2	Chapter 2	
Thursday	Feb 12	2	Chapter 2	Quiz
Tuesday	Feb 17	2	Chapter 2	
Thursday	Feb 19		EXAM I	
Tuesday	Feb 24	5	Chapter 5	
Thursday	Feb 26	5	Chapter 5	Quiz
Tuesday	Mar 3	5	Chapter 5	
Thursday	Mar 5	5	Chapter 5	
Tuesday	Mar 10	6	Chapter 6	
Thursday	Mar 12	6	Chapter 6	Quiz
Tuesday	Mar 17		Spring Break	Spring break
Thursday	Mar 19		Spring Break	Spring Break
Tuesday	Mar 24	6	Chapter 6	
Thursday	Mar 26	6	Chapter 6	Quiz
Tuesday	Mar 31		EXAM II	
Thursday	Apr 2	9	Chapter 9	Apr 3 = Last day to withdraw
Tuesday	Apr 7	9	Chapter 9	
Thursday	Apr 9	9	Chapter 9	
Tuesday	Apr 14	9	Chapter 9	
Thursday	Apr 16	10	Chapter 10	Quiz
Tuesday	Apr 21	10	Chapter 10	
Thursday	Apr 23	10	Chapter 10	Quiz
Tuesday	Apr 28	10	Chapter 10	
Thursday	Apr 30	10	Chapter 10	May 1 = Last day of classes
Tuesday	May 5		Section 401: FINAL EXAM in CB 337	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	May 6		Section 004: FINAL EXAM in CB 337	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Additional Information: I will not tolerate cheating of any kind. If you are found cheating, the minimum punishment will be a "0" on the work cheated on, with a possibility of further repercussions. Storing notes inside of a calculator is considered cheating. Also, I am not going to allow the use of cell phones during class or for the exams. Please keep this in mind; you will need a calculator for this class.