

MATH 164
SECTION 1 WINTER 2008
COURSE SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. B. L. Erickson
OFFICE: Hertz 223
PHONE: 963-7124
OFFICE HOUR: Daily 10-10:50 am

TEXT: A Problem Solving Approach to Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers, by Billestein, Libeskind and Lott.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

Philosophy and Content: This course is designed exclusively for those students who want to become elementary school teachers. The course will thus be taught accordingly.

Since 1980, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) has been emphasizing problem solving as the way mathematics should be taught. The State of Washington has also endorsed this philosophy as can be seen by the WASL testing. Thus the thrust of this course will be problem solving. You are expected to be active in discussion and activities of the course. Mathematics is not a spectator sport!!!!

The topics covered in this course will basically be Chapters 1-8. There will be supplementary materials supplied by the instructor. There will be material presented in a different way from the text approach and that will be the way you are to learn it.

HOMEWORK: There will homework assigned daily. This will generally not be turned in. On occasion I'll have you turn in some homework. As the assigned problems will be the basis for all quizzes and exams, it is to your advantage (and responsibility) to keep up on the homework.

QUIZZES: There will be regular, unannounced quizzes throughout the quarter. These quizzes will be over previous homework. You will not be able to make these up. If you cannot be to class for some good reason, let me know ahead of time and I will excuse your from the quiz and it will not count against you.

EXAMS: There will be four midterm exams, each worth 100 points, over the quarter. These will be on Jan 18, Feb 1, Feb 15 and Feb 29. There will be no makeup allowed on these exams, so plan accordingly.

FINAL EXAM: The final exam will be worth 200 points and will be comprehensive. This will be held on Mar

COURSE GRADE: Your grade will be based upon the total cumulative points and will be determined by the following scale:

100-93% = A; 92.9-90% = A-; 89.9-87% = B+; 86.9-83% = B; 82.9-80% = B-;
79.9-77% = C+; 76.9-73% = C; 72.9-70% = C-; 69.9-67% = D+; 66.9-63% = D;
62.9-60% = D-; Below 60% = F

For those who might need additional help, the Mathematics Department secretary has a list of tutors you might be able to hire. There is also the help center in Hertz.