

Professor: Dr. Chris Black
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Text: None required. Notes will be provided through Blackboard, although you may need to consult one or more external textbooks.

GOALS FOR COURSE:

The goal for this course is to provide students with the opportunity to review mathematical content topics to prepare to take and pass the Washington Educator Skills Test - Endorsement (WEST-E) in Mathematics.

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE:

Although the course is structured as a 9-week course, you may proceed at your own pace through the material, as long as you complete the requirements by the last day of finals week. In each unit, you will be able to download a review packet of notes on the topic of that unit. Then you will be assigned a set of 15-30 exercises. Work through the exercises, entering your answers into Blackboard for assessment. Then you will take a practice exam. During these exams, do your best to simulate test-taking conditions – choose a time and place where you can expect to be uninterrupted for the duration of the testing period; use nothing but a calculator, pencil and paper. After the exam, go back and review the problems that you missed – this is when the improvement will occur.

As you complete one unit, then next will become available, allowing you to proceed at your own pace.

COURSE TOPICS:

The topics for the course are taken directly from the conceptual framework for the WEST-E. These are broadly stated as:

- ▷ Mathematical processes: reasoning and proof, mathematical communication, problem solving
- ▷ Number and Operations: Representation, operation and number theory
- ▷ Algebra and Functions: Functions (linear, quadratic, exponential, etc.) & linear algebra
- ▷ Measurement and Geometry: Principles of measurement, axiomatic systems and geometric proof
- ▷ Statistics and Probability: sampling, descriptive and inferential statistics and principles of probability
- ▷ Discrete Mathematics: principles of discrete mathematics
- ▷ Calculus: Limits, continuity, derivatives and integrals.

EXERCISE SETS:

There is one exercise set for each of these 8 mathematical topics:

- Measurement and Geometry
- Discrete Mathematics
- Probability and Statistics
- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Calculus
- Number and Operation
- Mathematical Processes

For each topic, you will have access to a packet of review notes. Read through the review packet, and then begin the exercises for that topic. You may need to consult outside references. Exercise sets will vary from 15 - 25 problems in length. Work the problems out on paper, and enter your answers carefully into Blackboard to be assessed. You will receive instant feedback on each assignment.

Students must receive a score of 70% or better to successfully complete an exercise set. Blackboard will not let you proceed to the next unit until this score is attained. If you are having problems with an exercise set, consult the note packet available through Blackboard, a textbook, or the professor.

Full solutions to each exercise set will become available once your answers have been submitted with 70% mastery.

EXAMS:

Exams in this course are sample WEST-E exams, and other multiple choice exams of a similar format. There will be one such test for each unit along with a pre-test and post-test.

GRADING:

As the purpose of this course is improvement, all students will enroll using the Credit/No Credit grade option. A grade of 'Satisfactory' will be assigned if all exercise sets and exams are completed. Note that the exercises must be completed with a score of 70% or better to proceed in the course.

HONOR AND RESPECT:

Each of us should consider our placement at this institution to be a privilege. We need to have respect for one another, and for ourselves. In light of these facts, cheating in any form will not be tolerated. You are encouraged to work together on the exercise sets, however be sure that you can arrive at the answer independently. Remember that the purpose of the course is to prepare you to take an independent exam. The word "plagiarize" is defined by Merriam-Webster as "to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source." This is a very serious offense.

DISABILITY SERVICES:

Students with disabilities may arrange for academic adjustments by providing the professor with a copy of the "Confirmation of Eligibility for Academic Adjustments" from the Disability Support Services Office as soon as possible. To obtain this form, contact the Disability Support Services Office at the main campus at dssrecept@cwu.edu or (509) 963-2171.