

INSTRUCTOR: Dale Width, Bouillon 121  
OFFICE HOUR: 12 noon daily or by appointment  
EMAIL: [widthd@cwu.edu](mailto:widthd@cwu.edu)  
PHONE: 963-2400  
Text: Briggs & Bennett, Using and Understanding Mathematics

Schedule: (subject to change!)

Weeks 1 & 2	Reasoning, Fallacies and Argument Analysis
Weeks 3 & 4	Borrowing, Credit and Interest
Weeks 5 & 6	Voting
Weeks 7 & 8	Modeling Growth
Week 9	Review
Final Exam	Wednesday, December 8, 12 noon. NO EXCEPTIONS!

This course is project oriented. You will work on in and out of class projects in each topic.

This syllabus sets out my expectations for the classwork which will determine your grade. It is most important that you read and understand it. Ask questions if you need to. Keep it for reference. If you have special needs or requirements to facilitate your progress, or outside activities which will interfere with class, you need to make arrangements with me as soon as possible.

Math 101 satisfies part of the basic skills requirement needed for graduation. It presents material which has applications in daily life. Math is all around us, and it is essential that we gain an understanding of it. Otherwise we become victims of those who do! This class will attempt to describe what Mathematics is, how it is put together, and how it works.

Mathematics is like a foreign language. The only way to gain the skills required for success is through practice. It requires a LOT of time. If you have other commitments which will demand much of your time, you may have problems successfully completing this course. Homework is strictly YOUR responsibility. You are here because you choose to be. Lack of effort will result in a waste of YOUR time and money!

We will move FAST. The primary resource is class. BE THERE! It will be your responsibility to catch up if you aren't. Attendance is not required, but quizzes will be given at random for the benefit of those of us who regularly show up. We will add material to that found in the textbook so you need to be here!

Other resources are used. The textbook is most important. You will be working lots of problems. Another is your classmates. Group studying is recommended; study groups will be organized early on. Students showing early success will be offered the opportunity to lead. ASK QUESTIONS! If you do your homework, you will be able to.

Take notes! The material presented in class is important. Even if you draw pictures, write things down!

Reading assignments will be given most days. Quizzes at the beginning of class can be expected.

A calculator, with memory and exponential functions, is REQUIRED! No exceptions! The TI-83 graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

If you are sick, or have flu symptoms, use common sense. Stay home. However, you must stay in touch. Email me if you will miss class. You will also be responsible for meeting with me to arrange for any missed material, and for making up assignments.

Incompletes will NOT be given! The last day for uncontested withdrawal is November 5. Plan now so that your grade does not threaten your financial aid.

If you have any requests to allow for special needs, let me know as soon as possible.

There will be 4 exams of 100 points each. Additional in and out of class assignments will total 100 points. Quizzes that may or may not be announced in advance will be worth an additional 100 points. Grades are based on percentages of the total and are earned as follows: **95 and above, A; 92-94, A-; 88-92, B+; 83-87, B; 80-82, B-; 77-79, C+; 73-76, C; 70-72, C-; 60-69, D.** This scale may be adjusted slightly.

If the date of the final presents a problem, you need to consider changing sections.

I often hear comments from students such as 'I am just naturally bad at math' or 'Math has always been very difficult for me'. These negative attitudes came about because of unhappy past experiences. This class will give you the opportunity to change that. Any one of you can succeed at math. We will present a positive learning environment. If you give a sincere effort in this class, keep a positive attitude, and attend regularly, success is guaranteed.

An important requirement for this class is mutual respect. I respect your presence in this class; you, in return must respect our presence and the learning process taking place in our classroom. Rude behavior will not be tolerated. Your attention and effort is **mandatory** to make this class a success.