Math 101

Winter 2011

Instructor: Steve Stein, PhD

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10:00/1:00 Office hour (& upon request)

101-001 Bouillon Hall 144 9:00

101-003 Bouillon 110 11:00

101-005 Bouillon 110 12:00

Course Summary: Math in the modern world is mathematics for students who want a better understanding of the real-life mathematics that all people face. It is especially designed for those who have struggled with mathematics in the past. The course stresses the application of mathematics to personal and social issues, rather than stressing the abstract ideas found in many mathematics courses. This course will include projects as part of the course content. The desired outcome of the inclusion of projects is to prepare students to function in real-life situations and to integrate quantitative reasoning as part of that process.

At CWU, Math in the Modern World is often selected to satisfy a General Education requirement for graduation. It is real-world applicable and serves to prepare students for mathematics that will be encountered in other core courses. It also helps to develop a student's ability to reason quantitatively to achieve success in their future careers and personal lives. Basic course goals include:

- Becoming familiar with techniques from many branches of mathematics.
- Developing the ability to analyze quantitative information critically.
- Investigating real-world problems creatively.
- Understanding to connections between various mathematical methods.
- Using technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results and verify conclusions.
- Determining the reasonableness of solutions.
- Appreciating that the procedure for solving a problem is a important as the answer.
- Communicating knowledge in both everyday and mathematical language.

Special points of interest:

- Daily homework is assigned, but not collected.
- Be prepared for up to one graded quiz per section (quizzes will usually be announced.) Problems will be similar to hw or worksheet problems. HW can be used on quizzes (not your text book.)
- There will be four tests and a final exam. A 3x5 note card can be used on tests. Students wishing to drop their lowest test grade (not including final exam) may do so by demonstrating completion of homework for the course.
- The tests can be retaken outside of class (in order to take advantage of this students must demonstrate completion of hw for the chapter) at arranged times and within one week of completion of the first test for the chapter. The maximum improvement in grade is two letter grades with a B+ being the highest possible on the retake.
- Grades based on total points calculated to the nearest whole number.
- My family will invite students from class to our home for dinner.

Necessities:

- Come to class! Math requires a daily commitment
- Textbook: *Mathematics A Quantitative Reasoning Approach, 5th Edition (Bennet & Briggs)*
- Scientific calculator: should have graphing capabilities (I will usually use a TI-83+)
- Participate in class—ask questions! I want to help!
- Communicate with the instructor...email, office hours…
- Take advantage of the Math Learning Center in Hertz Hall. Tutoring is available!

Quiz One—complete the math autobiography and give it to me in my office within the first 6 days of class