

RAND 117, 11:00 am daily

Instructor: Thad O'Dell, Bouillon 122

Office Hour: 9:00 am, M to Th

Phone: 963-2602

e-mail: [odellt@cwu.edu](mailto:odellt@cwu.edu)

Test: Briggs and Bennett, Using and Understanding Mathematics, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition

Final Exam: Wed, Dec 11 12:00 pm NO EXCEPTIONS If this presents a problem, you need to consider changing sections.

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!

Math 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. You will also be able to use your completed homework as notes on the quizzes. 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 can 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 or 84 graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

There will be 4 exams and a Final Exam. There will also be an assortment of in class and out of class assignments. There will be quizzes on a regular basis.

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