

Math 101-003

Math in the Modern World

Winter 2014

Bou 110, 9:00 am daily

Phone: 963-2602

Instructor: Thad O'Dell, Bouillon 122

Office Hour: 10:00 am, M to Th

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

**Final Exam:** Mon, March 17 8:00 am 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.

**Description:** 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!

**Time:** The general rule of thumb for college is 2 hours outside of class for each hour in class. Expect to spend 10 hours per week outside of class to be successful (some may need more, some less . . .). You choose to succeed or not by how you spend your time and energy. The only way to gain the skills required for success in this class is through practice. It requires a LOT of time. Plan ahead and make sure you have time available. 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!

**Expectations:** The primary resource is class. BE THERE! TRULY THERE Uni-tasking! The lost art of doing one thing at a time, focusing, and doing it to the best of your ability. Turn off your phones, ipods, ipads, etc. during class. You have to show up, do your work, ask meaningful questions, and get help as needed in order to succeed. If you must be gone, you are responsible to find out what you have missed. Blackboard can be helpful in that endeavor.

Respect yourself: Believe your education is important enough to put forth the effort. Your future is worth investing in.

Respect others: me, classmates, the school, etc. don't be rude and don't cheat.

**Resources:** The textbook is important. You will be working lots of problems. Another is your classmates. Group studying is recommended; study groups can be organized early on. A calculator, with memory and exponential functions, is REQUIRED! No exceptions! The TI-83 or 84 graphing calculator is strongly recommended. Smart phone apps will not do, as you can not use a phone during quizzes and tests. (hopefully for obvious reasons).

**Grading:** There will be 3 exams and a Final Exam. There will also be an assortment of quizzes both in class and take home. The in class quizzes will be unannounced and there will be no make ups. There will also be a problem of the week due every two weeks. These will be done with a partner. Homework will not be turned in and therefore will not be graded. However you can use any homework you have done as notes for the quizzes. The tentative exam dates are Jan 27, Feb 17, March 11

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 class regularly, success is guaranteed.