

Math 101: Math in the Modern World

Meeting Daily 1:00 – 1:50 in Hertz 119

Instructor: Tim Brown

Phone: 509-963-1720

Email: brownti@cwu.edu -- preferred

Office: Bouillon 117

Office Hours: 2-3 PM Daily (and by appt.)

Course info on Canvass website, through mycwu.

Description: Math in the Modern World is a course which explores a variety of math applications average people run into. It satisfies the General Education “Basic Skills (D)” requirement. The topics we cover will include finance, critical thinking/logic, percentages and growth patterns, and voting and apportionment, as well as student-generated topics. You will be expected to apply skills and ideas to problem-solving scenarios in addition to simply learning procedures.

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 besides class time to be successful (some may need more, some less....) You choose to succeed or not largely by how you choose to spend time and energy. Plan ahead and make sure you have time available.

Expectations:

Uni-tasking! The (lost) art of doing one thing at a time, focusing, and doing it well. Turn off your phones, ipods, ipads, cortical implants, etc. during class... She will still love you in 50 minutes. The birds will still be angry. Some people will still call him Maurice. The fruit will still need to be ninja-ed. If you are here, be truly here.

Attendance, participation, homework. Not all content will be from the book, nor will all required book content be discussed in class. You are responsible for all material presented in class, so attendance is essential. You are also responsible for understanding the assigned readings, so be sure to ask questions if something is confusing. No one who consistently shows up, does their work, and gets help as needed fails my classes. This isn't a separate policy, it just works out that way. Be here, pay attention, ask questions, do your work, and you will succeed. If you must be gone, you are responsible to access my canvass website for information, and keep up with the work.

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

Respect others (real or simulated respect) – me, classmates, the school, etc. Honesty is an absolutely essential part of that.

Materials:

- A scientific calculator is required. Smart phone apps will not do, as you can't use a phone during quizzes and tests (hopefully for obvious reasons).
- Text: Using and Understanding Mathematics: A quantitative reasoning approach 5th edition by Bennett and Briggs.

Grading:

- 20% Final Exam 90% - 100% = A
 - 10% Mid-Term exam 80% - 90% = B
 - 40% Quizzes/ Major projects 70% - 80% = C
 - 20% Homework/ Minor projects 60% - 70% = D
 - 10% Weekly Scavenger Hunt
- + and – grades apply if your score is within 2%.

Homework is assigned almost every day, and needs to be done that day, and turned in by the due date. I often give one or two extra days after the work should be done before it is due. This is to allow for questions, not to enable procrastination. No late work will be scored. All homework should be clearly headed with your name, assignment name, and time of class. Homework must have problems in order, clearly labeled, with work shown in the manner prescribed in class. Answers without supporting work are generally worthless. I typically select sample problems to score for accuracy, and give completion points for the rest of the assignment. I also will often check selected problems for comprehension in class prior to the due date.

Quizzes: You will have a scheduled quiz every Friday except 5/2, as well as at random, unannounced times to be determined. You may retake up to 4 quizzes this quarter. You must complete the relevant homework to be eligible for a retake, and you must come see me outside of class – during office hours or by appointment. Deadline for retakes is two weeks after the original was given, or the last day of instruction, whichever comes first. If you are absent the day a quiz is given, the retake is your only chance at the quiz.

Weekly Scavenger Hunt: Details given out on the first day. This is an opportunity for you to identify topics of interest or apply topics we've covered in your world.

Tests: Mid-term exam is on Friday, 5/2. The mid-term and final exams must be taken on the days assigned. Other times will be arranged only for the direst of circumstances (e.g. family funeral is valid if it is your own ☺). You will be allowed one 3 X 5 note card (both sides) with notes handwritten by you for each test.

Projects: Scoring criteria will vary from project to project. Some will be short, and will be entered as a homework grade. Others will be more significant, and will count as quizzes.

Late work: No such thing. I give extra opportunities on some tasks, but when they are due, they are due.

Cheating = Failure. You are always allowed help on homework. Quizzes, the mid-term, and the final are individual efforts. You will receive a zero with no chance for make up if you copy, help, hint, check, etc. with a classmate. The only exception would be a project counting in the quiz category.

Extra Help: Do not hesitate to come see me at my office. My office hours are listed on the front of this page, and I'm available other times by arrangement. We have math education students who are available for individual or small group tutoring – see me. Also, the University Math Center, located in ARC on the first floor of Brooks library has very generous drop in tutoring hours, and there are “supplemental instruction” course-specific regular study sessions available with a tutor at times TBA. Kahn academy (www.khanacademy.org) has an organized collection of over 2,400 tutorial videos, with special emphasis on math.

Accommodations: If you have a disability and require accommodations for this course please speak with me privately as soon as possible so that your needs may be appropriately met. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with Disability Services (DS). DS is located in Bouillon 140. Call (509) 963-2149 or email cds@cwu.edu for more information.

THE END: Your final exam will be held on 12 – 2 PM on Wednesday, June 11. There will be regular quizzes, daily work and review assignments due during the last week of class (June 2 - 6)