

Math 101.003: Math in the Modern World

Meeting Daily 10:00 - 10:50 in Bouillon 109

Instructor: Tim Brown

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Office: Bouillon 117

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

Course info on Canvas 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/problem solving, percentages and growth patterns, and voting and apportionment, as well as student-generated topics. We will also explore the variety of topics that make up the field of mathematics. 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 candy will still need to be crushed. Some people will still call him Maurice. Your friends will still have “words” with you ☺. 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. Not all in-class graded activities will be possible to make up, so attendance becomes part of your grade in that way. You are responsible for all material presented in class, whether it is in the book or not. 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 canvas 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). If this is a problem, come see me during office hours.
- Text: Using and Understanding Mathematics: A quantitative reasoning approach 6th edition by Bennett and Briggs.

Grading:

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|-------|--------------------------|----------------|
| ○ 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. Selected problems will frequently be checked in class the next day. A homework packet is **due every Friday**, generally including work up to the previous Wednesday or so. No late work will be scored. Each section of your 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.

Perfect Practices: As part of the homework packets, you will have individual exercises labeled “perfect practice,” which you have to keep correcting until they are perfect before you get credit. I stamp these when they are perfect. You must have your perfect practices stamped by Thursday, to get credit when you turn the homework packet in on Friday – they don’t get re-checked after the packet is turned in.

Quizzes: You will have a scheduled quiz every **Friday**. You may retake up to 4 quizzes this quarter for full credit. 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: Due each **Thursday**. Details given out on the first day. This is an opportunity for you to identify topics of interest or apply topics we’ve covered to your world.

Tests: Mid-term exam is on Friday, February 6. 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 inch 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 unless otherwise specified. You will receive a zero with no chance for make up if you copy, help, hint, check, etc. with a classmate. Projects are usually collaborative efforts.

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 Thursday, March 19 at 8:00 – 10:00 There will be regular daily work and review assignments along with a budget project due during the last week of class.