

Math 207 Winter 2021
Honors Seminar - Mathematics for Human Flourishing

Instructor: Dr. Kathy Temple

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Office Hours: MW 10 - 10:50 AM, TTh 1:00 - 1:50 PM, and by appointment.

Meeting times: 2 - 2:50 Th on Zoom - please plan on attending synchronous class sessions.

Prerequisite: No course pre-requisites - just a willingness to read, reflect, and talk about mathematics!

Required Text: *Mathematics for Human Flourishing*, Francis Su, Yale University Press, 2020.

Course Goals: *Mathematics for Human Flourishing* talks about (very broadly) math and the human experience. We'll reflect on what mathematics is, what it means to do mathematics, and what it means to be a community that does mathematics. Also, there will hopefully be some fun math puzzles along the way!

Course Structure: This course is a seminar-style course. This means that you are expected to be present and participating in class every class meeting. It also means that, later in the quarter, our discussions and explorations will be led by students.

You'll be asked to read a section of the book each week, and respond to some reflection questions before our class meeting. I'll set reflection/discussion questions for the first few weeks and lead discussions. For the last few weeks, students will be setting reflection/discussion questions and leading the discussions in class. You can work in pairs for this, if you wish. I'll have you sign up for sections and class meetings a couple weeks into the term.

At the end of the quarter, I'll ask you to write a final reflection about the book and how your thinking may have evolved over the quarter. This final reflection will be due during final exam week. I am not currently planning on a meeting during the final exam period.

Evaluation: Because this is a seminar-style course, your attendance and participation are very important! In particular, in order to earn at least a "C" in this course, *you must attend and actively participate in at least 8 full class meetings* out of our 10 meetings. Your grade will be based on:

- Reflections (weekly plus a final reflection) (40%);
- Leading class discussion on your designated week (30%);
- Participation in class discussions (30%).

General Course Policies:

Come to class with an open mind and ready to discuss. Engage respectfully and honestly with what your fellow students have to say. Some of the topics this quarter may touch on experiences that are very personal for some of you. The guidelines below about professional

conduct are especially important in these circumstances. You are never obliged to share more than you wish to.

Zoom Meetings: Please turn on your camera if that is reasonable given your situation, bandwidth issues, etc. If you cannot turn on your camera, please use a profile picture on Zoom that matches your profile picture on Canvas (and please put one up on Canvas) so that we don't have to look at a sea of names/initials!

I am not currently planning on recording and posting our class meetings, since we will be so heavily discussion-based.

Face Coverings and Social Distancing: Due to COVID-19, and under the directive and mandate of public health officials and the president of Central Washington University, students must adopt face covering protocol before entering any classroom or building at CWU until further notice. Students must also follow the social distancing placement marks in buildings and classrooms. If you do not have a face covering Central Washington University can provide one for you. If you have not yet received your CWU-supplied facial covering, please go to the SURC Information Desk. Please do so prior to the start of your first class. Face coverings must cover both the mouth and nose. Your mask protects me; my mask protects you. Masks with one-way valves for exhalation don't have the protective value for others - please don't use them as your face covering for any in-person components. Thank you for helping keep all of us safe!

Academic Honesty: Consult university policies (CWUP 5-90-040(22), CWUR 2-90-040(22), and WAC 106-125-020) for student conduct, cheating, plagiarism, and other academic expectations. CWU's policies and recommendations for academic misconduct will be followed, leading to disciplinary action up to and including failing the course.

Inclusivity Statement: As a member of a peer learning community, a high degree of professionalism is necessary. **CWU expects every member of the university community to contribute to an inclusive and respectful classroom culture.**

Classroom Conduct: Students in this class are expected to interact with students and the professor professionally. Instances of disruptive conduct, obstructive conduct, or harassment (see definitions below from the Washington Administrative Code: WAC 106-125-020) will be referred to the Dean of Student Success.

Disability Support Services: Central Washington University is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. Students with disabilities should contact Disability Services to discuss a range of options to removing barriers, including accommodations: Hogue Hall 126, 509.963.2214, DS@cwu.edu

Is my absence excused? Excused absences will not lower your overall grade in this class and are determined on a case-by-case basis. Excused absences include illness, bereavement, and school-related activities. With the exception of illness, documentation is required. Excused absences do not include travel for holiday breaks, work, or non-emergency travel delays.

In compliance with RCW 28B.137.010, Central Washington University makes every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Students must present written notice to their instructor within the first two weeks of class listing the specific dates on which accommodations are required. Contact the Dean of Student Success at

(509) 963-1515 for further information or questions.

Communication: This is going to be an unusual quarter in many ways. In all things, communication is going to be key. If you have something going on, please let me know (no details you don't feel comfortable sharing, of course, just a general heads-up). As things need to change during the quarter, I will do my best to let you know as soon as I can. In all things, please extend grace to me and your classmates, and I will do my best to do the same.

I reserve the right to change the policies contained in this syllabus as dictated by developments during the quarter.