



Course Syllabus: Contemporary Mathematics

College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering

MATH 1053 Section 1R2

Fall 2026

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Jihyun Lee

Office: Bolin Hall 122B

Office hours: Mon 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Tue 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Wed 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

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Class Meeting Days, Times, Location

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9:00 AM – 9:50 AM

Classroom: Bolin Hall 144

Prerequisites

Math TSIA2 Assessment score of 950, Math TSIA2 Diagnostic score of 6, MATH 1003, Math TSI Assessment score of 350, math THEA score of 270, math Accuplacer score of 90, or satisfactory score on placement exam.

Course Description

A survey of the use of mathematics in the modern world. Topics include theory of elections and apportionment, graphs and networks, growth and symmetry, or statistics.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply the language and notation of sets.
2. Determine the validity of an argument or statement and provide mathematical evidence.
3. Solve problems in mathematics of finance.

4. Demonstrate fundamental probability/counting techniques and apply those techniques to solve problems.
5. Interpret and analyze various representations of data.

Demonstrate the ability to choose and analyze mathematical models to solve problems from real-world settings, including, but not limited to, personal finance, health literacy, and civic engagement.

Assessment of Core Objectives

Samples of students' work from embedded exam questions will be used in the assessment of critical thinking, communication skills, and empirical and quantitative skills. One core objective will be assessed in each of the three exams given over the semester.

Course Materials - Desire-to-Learn(D2L)

This course will use D2L to distribute information. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program and to regularly check posted information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. On D2L, I will post

1. Announcements and reminders
2. Important date changes
3. Completed lecture notes and quiz solutions

Please check D2L regularly to stay up to date throughout the semester.

Textbook & Online Homework System

You will do all of your homework in **MyLabMath** for the textbook Excursions in Modern Mathematics, by Tannenbaum 10th edition.

Courseware Access

Required digital materials (textbook and MyLabMath Access) for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Your course materials will be available on the first day of class through D2L. The charges for this material have been posted to your student account at the Business Office. If you want to "opt out" of this program and the cost savings, you will receive the "opt out" instructions as you register for MyLabMath. If you choose to "opt out", it is your responsibility to contact Pearson for instructions on registering for MyLabMath, and you will be without access to homework for up to a week.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact the MSU Bookstore (940) 397-4303.

Calculators

You should have a scientific calculator. You will not need a graphing calculator, though you are welcome to use one. You are expected to bring your calculator to class each day.

You may not use a phone or any device with internet access as a calculator on *quizzes or *tests. You may not share calculators.

Computer Requirements

This class requires you to have access to a computer (with Internet access) to complete your homework assignments. It is your responsibility to have (or have access to) a working computer for this class. ***Assignments are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered a reason for the instructor to allow students extra time to submit assignments.**

Computers are available on campus in various areas of the buildings as well as the Academic Success Center. ***Your computer being down is not an excuse for missing a deadline!** There are many places to access your homework! Our online homework can be accessed from any computer in the world which is connected to the internet.

Coursework and Grading – Grading

This course will be divided into **three units**. (Each worth *one-third of the final grade)

In **each unit**, your grade will be computed as follows:

Table 1: Percentages Allotted

Category	Percentage
Homework	20%
Quizzes	20%
Unit Exams	60%
Total	100%

Your final grade will be based on the ***AVERAGE** of your three unit scores:

Table 2: Total percentage for final grade

Grade	Percentage
A	at least 90%
B	80–89%
C	70–79%
D	60–69%
F	Less than 60%

Coursework

Table 3: List of Topics

Chapter	Topics
Chapter 1	The Mathematics of Elections: The Paradoxes of Democracy
Chapter 2	The Mathematics of Power: Weighted Voting
Chapter 3	The Mathematics of Sharing: Fair-Division Games
Chapter 4	The Mathematics of Apportionment: Making the Rounds
Chapter 5	Parametric Equations and Polar Coordinates
Chapter 6	The Mathematics of Touring: Traveling Salesman Problems
Chapter 7	The Mathematics of Networks: The Cost of Being Connected
Chapter 10	Financial Mathematics: Money Matters
Chapter 15	Graphs, Charts, and Numbers: The Data Shows and Tell
Chapter 16	Probabilities, Odds, and Expectations: Measuring Uncertainty and Risk
Chapter 17	The Mathematics of Normality: The Call of the Bell

Homework

Homework will be assigned using the MyLab system. Homework will be assigned daily over the material that is covered in class. Problems may be worked as many times as you like, so a perfect homework score should be attainable.

- **Homework for each chapter will be due for 100% credit on the day of the chapter quiz;** you are encouraged to work on homework after each class period.
- Homework can be completed **after the due date and before the unit exam for 75% credit** (25% deduction).
- *After the unit exam, your homework score for that unit will be final.*

Homework is accessed through D2L by clicking on the MyLabMath Course Home link on the D2L homepage for Math 1053.

Quizzes

11 quizzes will be given in class over the course of the semester. Make-up quizzes will only be given if a student can take the quiz before it is given in class. A missed quiz will result in a grade of 0 on that quiz. A quiz missed for a university excused absence can be dropped from the unit grade computation as long as paperwork is completed at least two class days before the absence.

***Quiz dates are not fixed and will be announced in class as the course progresses.**

Exams

There will be three unit exams during the semester. The ***tentative** dates for these exams are in the following table.

Table 4: Tentative Dates for Exams

Exam	Date
Unit 1 Exam	Tuesday, Sep 29
Unit 2 Exam	Tuesday, Oct 27
Unit 3 Exam	Thursday, Dec 3

If you must miss an exam, please let me know at least one week ahead of the test date and arrange to take the test early. Accommodations with less notice will be made only in the case of serious and unforeseeable circumstances. Notice must always be given as soon as possible; accommodations will generally not be made if notice is not given by 5:00 PM on the day of the exam.

***There is No final exam for this course**

Attendance and Engagement

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Students are expected to arrive on time and remain for the entire class period and actively engage in the lecture. Arriving late or leaving early may result in being counted as absent unless you inform me in advance. Simply being present in class does not constitute attendance. Failure to pay attention, engage in the lecture, or **unauthorized use of phones or laptops** may result in being marked absent.

Students who miss more than ***nine lectures (total for both MATH 1053 and MATH 0053)** or portions of classes may result in being dropped from the course with the grade of F.

If you miss class, it is your responsibility to

1. get notes from another student for the day(s) you missed, and
2. see me before the next class for any handouts from the day(s) you missed.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Changes to Syllabus

Some portions of this syllabus may alter during the semester. I will announce changes by email through the D2L email system. You are responsible for knowing everything I email to your D2L email address.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

Emergency Aid Resources for Basic Needs

Unexpected life circumstances can affect anyone. If you are experiencing challenges meeting basic needs—such as housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare, technology, textbooks or other life necessities, resources may be available to help. Visit the [Student Emergency Support and Resources webpage](#) to learn more, and explore emergency support opportunities through MSU and how to access them. For additional information, please contact the Office of Student Affairs: Clark Student Center #108, (940) 397-7500, student.affairs@mstuexas.edu.

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

Midwestern State University seeks to provide a safe, healthy, pleasant environment for its faculty, staff, and students. To this end, the use of tobacco products, including smoke and smokeless tobacco, and the advertising, sale, free distribution, and discarding of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all indoor and outdoor facilities and in all university vehicles. The policy extends to faculty, staff, students, vendors, guests, and visitors.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)