

Contemporary Mathematics
Math 1053.201
Spring 2022

Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Dawn Slavens

Office: Bolin 118L

Office hours: Mon. 2 – 3 PM; Tues & Thurs 8:45 – 10 AM; Wed. 10 – 11:30 AM

Note: The above office hours will be held in-person. Please be considerate and wear a face mask when attending an in-person office hour. I will have disposable face masks available in my office. If you choose to not wear a face mask, please maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet. In addition, by emailing me you may schedule an appointment to meet with me virtually through Zoom during an office hour listed above or at a different, mutually agreeable, time. If you have scheduled an appointment to meet with me through Zoom, you will enter the meeting by clicking on the Zoom Meeting Link from the D2L Course Home page. To attend a Zoom meeting with me, you need to have made an appointment, as I do not automatically turn Zoom on for office hours.

Office phone: (940) 397-4013

E-mail: dawn.slavens@msutexas.edu

Class Meeting Days, Times, Location

Tuesday, Thursday, 2:00 pm – 3:20 pm in Bolin 312

Course Description from MSU Catalog

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

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Required digital materials for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Students are charged for required course materials on their student account with the Business Office. Information about the price of the materials through this program is included as a newsfeed item in the D2L course. In addition, any student who wishes to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own may do so. Opt-out instructions will be sent to your my.msutexas.edu email address on the second day of classes. The opt-out instructions email will come from the MSU Bookstore. Please contact the MSU Bookstore (940) 397-4303 if you have any questions about the Courseware Access and Affordability Program or the opt-out process.

The digital material used for this course is MyMathLab, for the text Excursions in Modern Mathematics, Ninth Edition, by Peter Tannenbaum.

An electronic copy of the textbook is available in the MyMathLab course in which you will enroll.

For students that want a physical copy of the textbook, once you enroll in the MyMathLab course, an optional loose-leaf print copy of the textbook may be purchased directly through Pearson at a cost of approximately \$55. Information about how to order the optional loose-leaf copy of the textbook is in the course newsfeed.

Calculator Requirement: Each student will need to have a scientific calculator. Bring your calculator with you to each class meeting. The TI 30X IIS is a scientific calculator that sells for about \$15 through Amazon. You are not allowed to use a calculator on a phone.

Enrolling in and Accessing MyMathLab from within D2L

1. To register into your course materials for this course, from within the D2L course click the Pearson MyLab and Mastering "widget/link" that is located on the right side of the D2L Course Home page.
2. After clicking the link mentioned in 1.) above, enter your Pearson account **username** and **password** to link your Pearson and D2L accounts. (You have a Pearson account if you have ever used a Pearson MyLab & Mastering product, such as MyMathLab, MyITLab, MySpanishLab, MasteringBiology or MasteringPhysics.) If you don't have a Pearson account, select **Create** and follow the instructions.
3. Enter this access code: HSCTEM-GUESS-HAGEN-UNSET-GUSTO-PRIES

(This code has been paid for through your financial account and offers a discount that has been negotiated by your university through the **Courseware Access and Affordability Program**. If you have questions, please send an email to your instructor with your questions.)

If you have a different access code to use, then be sure to opt-out of the **Courseware Access and Affordability Program**. The access code you purchased from another source must be specific to the text *Excursions in Modern Mathematics, 9th Edition, by Peter Tannenbaum*.

Please register for MyMathLab on the first day of class. If you experience any technical issues, then try using Chrome before you do anything else. Pearson products are supported best through the Chrome browser. If you have any trouble with the registration process, be sure to let Dr. Slavens know. It is the student's responsibility to get registered, but if I can help you resolve any technical issue, I will do so.

Grading

This course will be divided into three units. Your course grade will be computed as follows:

Homework: 20%

Quizzes: 20%

Unit Exams: 60%

Homework

Homework will be assigned using the MyLab system. 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 initial due date; you are encouraged to work on homework after each class period. Homework can be completed after the initial due date and before I have given any final quiz from a chapter for 75% credit. Problems within a homework assignment that are completed before the initial due date are awarded full credit. After I have completed a chapter and given my final quiz over material from a chapter, the assignments for that chapter will no longer be available to work for credit. Once an assignment becomes unavailable to work for credit, you may access it through the MyMathLab gradebook and work on problems within the assignment without changing your grade on the assignment.

Keep a homework notebook with completed work for each homework assignment. In your homework notebook, label each assignment with the MyMathLab assignment name. Within that assignment, label problems requiring work with their corresponding problem numbers. Always bring with you to class your homework notebook.

Quizzes

Quizzes will be given in class over the course of the semester. Most will be announced ahead of time, but some may not be. No make-up quizzes will be given. A missed quiz will result in a grade of 0 on that quiz. Make-up quizzes will not be given for any reason, regardless of the reason for missing the quiz. If you are absent and if I have excused your absence, I may give you "no score" for the quiz instead of a score of 0. Excused absences generally require timely documentation of illness, personal emergency, or university approved activity. Scheduling a routine doctor appointment or other non-emergency type of appointment during class time does not constitute an excused absence. The first quiz will cover material from the syllabus and will be administered on D2L. A student who fails to take this quiz will receive a 0 for that quiz. You have until 11:59 pm on Tuesday, January 18, 2022, to complete the syllabus quiz. I will drop the lowest two quiz scores at the end of the semester. However, I will not drop any zeros given for academic dishonesty or for failure to take the syllabus quiz. Except for approved circumstances, a student may not leave the room once a quiz has begun.

Exams

There will be three unit exams during the semester. Tentative exam dates are February 10 (Unit 1), March 10 (Unit 2 Pt 1), March 29 (Unit 2 Pt 2) and May 5

(Unit 3) from 1 PM – 3PM. The exam on May 5th is during the final exam period for this course. Except for approved circumstances, a student may not leave the room once an exam has begun.

Make-up exams are not generally given; however, such exams may be given for an absence that is a result of a documented medical or personal emergency. If an exam is going to be missed due to an approved university activity, the student should request to take the exam early. For missed exams, timely notification (for emergencies, on or before the scheduled day of the exam, and for approved university activities, a week prior to the scheduled day of the exam) is necessary to receive consideration to make up the exam or take the exam early. If a student misses an exam has not contacted me by 5:00 pm on the day of the exam, it will not be possible to make up a missed exam. No student will be allowed to make up more than one exam during the semester. No exams may be made up due to a student scheduling a vacation on a day when classes are in session.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. On D2L I will post any announcements and reminders that I feel will be helpful as we go through the semester. I may post links to math videos that I assign you to watch. I will also post grades within D2L. Students are encouraged to download the BrightSpace Pulse App to access D2L without going to the MSU homepage.

Academic Misconduct

Cheating on any work in this course will result in no credit for that work. Egregious or repeated incidents may result in more serious consequences, including a failing grade in the course, which may be permanent on your transcript, or dismissal from your academic program. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported as specified in the MSU student handbook.

University academic dishonesty policies can be found at:

<https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>

Final Exam

There is no comprehensive final exam for this course. However, the Unit 3 test will be given during final exam week. The Unit 3 test is Thursday, May 5th, 1 PM – 3 PM. The exam will be given in our regular classroom.

Cell Phone Policy

Please turn these off or place on silent prior to the beginning of class. All cell phones must be put away or placed face down on the desk/table in front of you.

Use of a cell phone or any other electronic device (including earbuds) during class may result in the student being counted as absent for the class period. Further violations of the cell phone policy may result in the student's dismissal from class. Using a cell phone during a test or quiz will result in one of the penalties listed under the academic misconduct policy given above.

Punctuality and Attendance

Midwestern State University's Attendance Policy, which is contained in the MSU Student Handbook, states that students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Among other things, the policy covers the university's position on authorized absences, including who students should contact to inform faculty in cases of personal emergency or illness requiring hospitalization or prolonged absence. You may wish to review MSU's Class Attendance Policy within the Student Handbook.

Students should make every effort to arrive to class on time and remain for the entire class period. Arriving late and leaving early is a disruption to the instructors and to fellow students. Emergencies should not be regular occurrences. If you have a medical condition that warrants needing to leave class on a regular basis, please talk to the instructor and provide her with a doctor's note indicating such.

What you need to know about being absent from this class:

1. Any student who leaves class without the permission of the instructor is considered to be absent for the class period and any work submitted will not be graded.
2. Any student caught doing work for another class, or being physically present but not mentally present and engaged in class, may be asked to leave and will be counted absent.
3. A student who arrives more than five minutes late is considered absent.
4. A student who leaves during class and then returns will be counted absent after the second such occurrence.
5. Use of a cell phone or any other electronic device during class may result in the student being informed by email that this behavior is counted as an absence or may result in the student's dismissal from class.
6. A student who accumulates three absences may be instructor dropped from Math 1053 with a grade of F. In such cases, an email will be sent to the student using the student's email within D2L, notifying the student.
7. A student who is required to quarantine or self-isolation should email the professor to receive a copy of class notes. Absences accrued during quarantine will be considered as excused only if the student has gone through the proper channel of notifying the university.

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 in this class. **Assignments are due by the due date, and personal computer technical difficulties will not be considered 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. Contact your instructor immediately upon having computer trouble. If you have technical difficulties in the course, there is also a student tech support from Pearson available to you.

When you need help with this course, where can you go?

1. To your professor
 - See your professor's office hours and related "note" on page one of this syllabus.
 - You should have with you both your notes and all of the related work that you have done over the topics you are seeking help with when attending an office hour for the purpose of getting help with course content.
2. To the *Tutoring and Academic Support Program (TASP)*. TASP is located in Moffett Library and offers one-on-one tutoring in math as well as other courses. You can find out more about their services by visiting their office or searching *TASP* on the MSU website. TASP also offers a Math, Science, and Writing Homework Help Lounge Sunday through Thursday, 2:00 pm-9:00 pm. These services are free to students (included with the fees you have already paid) and are offered this semester starting January 18th and ending April 28th.

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 Clark Student Center, Room 168, (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](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.