

Math 1053: Contemporary Mathematics, Fall 2025

Instructor: Jacob Mescher
Office: Bolin 122Q
Office Hours: M,W,F 9:00-10:00 in Dillard 274F, and T, Th 8:00-9:30 in Dillard 274F
E-mail: jacob.mescher@msutexas.edu

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. Any students who wish to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own must follow the Opt-out instructions sent to students' official my.msutexas.edu email address after the first day of class. Please contact the MSU Bookstore if you have any questions about the opt-out process. You will be using MyLab Math and have access to a digital *Excursions in Modern Mathematics*, Tannenbaum 10th edition.

Calculators

You should have a calculator that will add, subtract, multiply, divide and take square roots. 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 during exams.

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 below:

Homework: 20%

Quizzes: 25%

Unit Exam: 55%

Grade Distribution Your final grade will be based on the average of your three unit scores. The grade distribution will be no stricter than the following:

A: 90%-100%

B: 80%-89%

C: 70%-79%

D: 60%-69%

F: Below 60%

Homework: The online homework for this course is via MyLab Math, which you can access through a link in D2L. 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 each week as posted in the assignments calendar; you are encouraged to work on homework after each class period. After the unit exam related to a homework assignment, that homework score will be final.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given in MyLab Math online over the course of the semester each Friday. No make-up quizzes will be given. A missed quiz will result in a grade of 0 on that quiz. Each Unit will allow 1 dropped quiz from quizzes taken within that Unit.

Exams: There will be three unit exams: Unit 1 Exam on September 23rd, Unit 2 Exam on October 30th, and Unit 3 Exam on December 5th.

Exams will take place on the following dates:

Unit 1 Exam Sept 23

Unit 2 Exam Oct 30

Unit 3 Exam Dec 5

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 or dismissal from your academic program. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported as specified in the MSU student handbook.

Attendance: This class will meet in its regularly scheduled room all scheduled days. You are expected to attend every class. This includes arriving on time, staying until the end, and being prepared and engaged. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to talk to a classmate to find out what you missed.

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. If you have technical difficulties with the website, there is also a student tech support from Pearson available to you.

****Important Notes****

1. **No make-up exams or make-up work is allowed except in the case of a documented emergency or documented university approved absence. Students who feel they are in a special situation not covered by these general rules should contact the instructor.**
2. **In any event where class needs to meet online we will meet at the regularly scheduled class time in an online platform. You will need a computer that can view the screenshare during the lessons.**
3. **When writing an email to contact me always use this convention for your subject line:
Math 1053 - Your Name**

Emails sent not using this convention are not guaranteed to be read.

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 <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/disability/>

College Policies: Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: Campus Carry Rules and Policies <https://msutexas.edu/campus-carry/rules-policies>

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