

Course Syllabus: Introduction to Modern Mathematics  
McCoy College of Science, Mathematics & Engineering  
Math 3233 Section 201 Spring 2024

**Contact Information**

Instructor: Dr. Dawn Slavens  
Office: Pierce Hall Room 122  
Office hours: Mon. 2-3 PM; Wed. & Fri. 10 AM-12 PM  
Office phone: (940) 397-4013  
E-mail: [dawn.slavens@msutexas.edu](mailto:dawn.slavens@msutexas.edu)

**Class Meeting Days, Times, Location**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00-9:50 AM in BO 311

**Catalog Information**

Description: Introduction to logic and methods of proof, set operations, equivalence relations, functions, mathematical induction, and cardinality. Other topics related to the study of structure of mathematical proof may be included.

**Textbook & Instructional Materials**

We will use the free online textbook:  
Book of Proof, Third edition, by Richard Hammack

**Grading**

Table 1: Percentage allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Percentage
Exam 1	15%
Exams 2-4	20%
Comprehensive Final Exam	25%

Table 2: Total percentage points needed for final course grade

Grade	Overall Percentage
A	at least 90%
B	at least 80%
C	at least 70%
D	at least 60%
F	Less than 60%

**Attendance Policy**

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Any student who is late or who leaves early may be counted as absent. **Any student who accumulates more than two unexcused or more than five total (excused and unexcused combined) absences may be instructor dropped from the class with a grade of WF or 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 Dr. Slavens before the next class for any handouts from the day(s) you missed.

### **Homework**

Even though homework will be done online within ALEKS, you are encouraged to have a notebook in which you write up your solutions to problems you work within the weekly homework modules and the pre-class homework assignments. As you are writing up solutions to problems, describe the steps out loud to yourself. Does it make sense? Are you confident on how you arrived at your answer?

You should work on the weekly homework modules over a course of several days each week. Do not expect to be able to complete the weekly homework modules in one or two settings each week. When you seek help from me (which I hope you will whenever you do not fully understand how to solve a problem type), bring with you your written work with your best attempt or attempts at solving the problem.

Graded homework will be given a "complete" or "incomplete" as a score. A "complete" on a homework problem/assignment does not mean you must earn a perfect score on that problem. (In fact, you will not receive a numerical score at all.) A "complete" means you have submitted a solution that Dr. Slavens has accepted as being more or less correct (in her opinion), though there will still likely be feedback from Dr. Slavens on improvements. Please note that:

- (1) if you do not earn a complete on at least 50% of all collected homework, you will lose 5% from your grade at the end of the semester.
- (2) assignments are generally due at the start of the next class, unless otherwise specified by Dr. Slavens (including problems that are redone).
- (3) late homework assignments will not be accepted and will automatically be counted as incomplete.
- (4) if you are given the opportunity to redo a problem, you must submit the new solution along with the first submission, and you are only allowed one redo for a problem.

Unless told otherwise, you are allowed (and even encouraged) to work with your classmates on homework exercises. However, you must write your own final proofs. Dr. Slavens expects all homework submissions to be your own work. Homework submissions must follow Dr. Slavens' submission guidelines in order to be accepted.

1. Do not write up final proofs with anyone else.

2. Do not allow another student to read your final proofs.

If you want to help someone understand how to work a problem, talk to them and give them advice or pointers, but never show them your completed work. **Note that you are not allowed to consult other textbooks, the internet, or any apps for any of your homework exercises that are submitted to me for a grade of "complete" or "incomplete."** You may consult other MSU faculty members, and you may work with other students in our class. Violation of Dr. Slavens' homework policy will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. *See the Academic Dishonesty section of this syllabus for possible academic sanctions when academic dishonesty occurs.*

### **Exam Dates**

Exam dates (subject to change with prior notice) are as follows:

Exam 1: Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>

Exam 2: Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

Exam 3: Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

Exam 4: Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

Final Exam: Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 8 -10 AM

### **Make-Up Exams**

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 unforeseen emergencies, as soon as possible and before 3 PM on 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.

### **Additional Assistance**

Office Hours are dedicated times I am available to meet with students. No appointment is needed to meet with me during my office hours, which are Mondays 2-3 PM, Wednesdays 10 AM – 12 PM, and Fridays 10 AM – 12 PM. Simply come to my office and I will be there. Other office hours are available by appointment. The best way to make an appointment is by sending me an email.

### **Electronic Devices Policy**

Earbuds are to be removed and cell phones silenced and stored no later than one minute prior to the time class is to start. Stored cell phones are to be placed in a bag/backpack (not on your leg or under your leg or on your chair, etc.) or placed face down on the desk/table in front of you. Other electronic devices must also be stored prior to the start of class. An exception is a tablet used for the sole purpose of taking notes. A student with a cell phone that is not appropriately stored or placed face down on the desk/table or who has earbuds in their ears will be considered to be using the cell phone/electronic device and will have their grade reduced by 1% for each occurrence of violating this policy. Students that continue to be noncompliant with this Cell Phone Policy may be referred to the Dean of Students Office and/or the student may be withdrawn from the class by the instructor. In addition, using an unauthorized electronic device (such as a cell phone, smart watch, or earbuds) during a test will result in one of the penalties listed under the academic misconduct policy given in this syllabus.

### **Desire-to-Learn (D2L)**

Use of the MSU D2L program is part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage.

### **Academic Misconduct Policy**

All work that you submit for this course that contributes to your course grade must be your own work. Any evidence that you submitted work that is not your own is considered an act of academic dishonesty. An act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the university and will result in one of the following academic sanctions:

- Receiving a 0 on the assignment or exam.
- Loss of a certain percentage of your overall Math 3233 grade.
- Receiving an F in MATH 3233
- Receiving an F in MATH 3233 that will remain permanent on your transcript and within your MSU GPA

The university's academic dishonesty policy can be found in the student handbook on the university's website.

### **Teaching and Learning During Inclement Weather Days**

If campus closes due to inclement weather during a time when class is scheduled, expect me to post a video within D2L over the topics planned to be covered on the day of the closure.

### **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](#).

### **Campus Carry Rules/Policies**

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#).

### **Notice**

Changes to the course syllabus, classroom procedures, assignment structure, and exam schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.