

# **Math 1053-201: Contemporary Math**

Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Cobb

Office: Bolin 118F

Office phone: (940) 397-4441

E-mail: [sarah.cobb@msutexas.edu](mailto:sarah.cobb@msutexas.edu)

Office hours: Monday: 12:00—1:00 PM

Tuesday: 3:00—4:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:00—11:00 AM

Thursday: 1:30—2:30 PM

Friday: 2:00—3:00 PM

Other times by appointment (email to schedule an appointment)

## **Schedule**

Lecture: MWF 11:00—11:50 AM

Unit Exams: Wednesday, February 26, in class

Wednesday, April 8, in class

Monday, May 11, 10:30 AM (final exam time)

## **Catalog information**

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.

Prerequisites: MATH 1003, math TSI Assessment score of 350, math THEA score of 270, math Accuplacer score of 90, or satisfactory score on placement exam OR TSI Assessment Math score of 336-349, or ABEM score of 5-6 with concurrent enrollment in MATH 0053.

## **Textbook**

*Excursions in Modern Mathematics*, ninth edition. Peter Tannenbaum.

You will also need access to the MyLab Math online content. Instructions for access will be provided on the first day of class as well as available on the course D2L page. An electronic copy of the book is included in the purchase of the MyLab system. You do not need a hard copy unless you want one.

## **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. You may not share calculators.

### 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:

Category	Percentage
Homework	20%
Quizzes	20%
Unit Exam	60%

At the instructor's discretion, the unit exam score may be substituted for the unit average in the final grade computation if the exam score is higher.

Your final letter grade will be based on the percentage obtained:

Grade	Percentage
A	At least 90%
B	80—90%
C	70—80%
D	60—70%
F	Less than 60%

Final grades will not be rounded up and no extra credit will be given.

### 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 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 half credit. After the unit exam, your homework score will be final.

The purpose of the homework is to help you understand the material for the class. I encourage you to take the homework seriously and put in as much effort as you need to in order to thoroughly understand the mathematics. MyLab includes many resources to help you, including videos, tutorials, and examples. It also includes online access to the textbook.

Instructions for setting up MyMathLab will be handed out on the first day of class and can be downloaded from the course D2L page.

### Quizzes

Three to four quizzes will be given during each of the three units. Most will be announced ahead of time, but some may not be. A quiz missed for a university excused absence can be taken early as long as paperwork is completed at least two class days before the absence. No make-up quizzes will be given.

### **Tests**

The unit exams for this class are on February 6 and April 8 during class time and on May 11, 10:30—12:30 AM. You are expected to take the exams in class as scheduled. 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. Under no circumstances may an exam be taken more than 48 hours after the exam is given to the class. Exams taken after the scheduled time are subject to a 10% grade penalty.

This course does not have a cumulative final exam.

### **Attendance**

You are expected to attend every class, if at all possible. This includes arriving on time, staying to the end, participating in class, and behaving respectfully. If you must miss class, please consult a classmate to find out what you missed. Students who miss more than six classes or portions of classes may be dropped from the course with a grade of F.

### **Classroom Behavior**

Respectful behavior in the classroom is required. Any student who is disruptive will be asked to leave class. As much as possible, please avoid talking with classmates and leaving or entering the room during class. Make sure all electronic devices are silenced.

### **Computers**

I do not allow the use of computers in the classroom. This includes laptops, cell phones, tablets, and other similar devices. (Calculators are allowed.) Students using such devices may be asked to leave class. If a cell phone, smart watch, or similar device is visible or audible during an exam, you will receive a zero on that exam.

If this policy presents a serious problem, please let me know; exceptions may be made in special circumstances.

### **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 your student handbook.

### **Changes**

Some portions of this syllabus may alter during the semester. When possible, I will announce changes in class as well as sending an email through the D2L email system. You are responsible for knowing everything I announce in class as well as everything I email to your address as listed in D2L. If you miss class, make sure you talk to someone who was there.

### **Office Hours**

Office hours are time that I have set aside to answer questions about the course or course material. I am happy to answer questions about homework problems, quizzes and tests, study practices, grades, and other topics. Please feel free to drop by with or without an appointment at any of the scheduled times listed on the first page. If it is impossible for you to attend scheduled office hours, email me to set up an appointment at another time.

### **Communicating with Me**

The best way to reach me is by email (my email address is on page 1). I will generally respond to email within 24 to 48 hours. I will be in my office during office hours each week and often at other times; feel free to stop by. Any communication not in writing or by email should be considered unofficial.

### **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 contact the Disability Support Services office.

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

This course will have an active D2L page. You should look there for homework assignments, scores on course work, review materials, and announcements.