MA 111: Intro to Contemporary Mathematics, Section 013
Fall 2015

Instructor Information:

Instructor: erica j. Whitaker

Office: Patterson Office Tower 741 (POT 741)

Email: ewhitaker@uky.edu   (The best way to reach me!)

Telephone: Office phone: 859-257-6792; Home phone 606-462-3328

Office Hours: M 4:15 – 5:15, W 11:30 – 12:30, Th 2:00 – 3:00.
     Other times available! Send an email or stop by my office.

Class Time and Location: T/Th 12:30 – 1:45, CB 204

Course Web Page: http://www.ms.uky.edu/~ejwh226/Fall2015teaching/MA111Home

Textbook: A textbook is **not required**. Lecture slides and notes on upcoming topics will be posted on the course website before or after each class meeting. Find the course website by following links from my website above.

Suggested Textbooks: If you would like to have references beyond the notes provided for the class, the following are worth a look. Keep in mind that notation and terminology might differ from what we use in class, but the explanations and examples can still be helpful!
1. **Math in Society** by David Lippman; this is available free online at
   http://www.opentextbookstore.com/mathinsociety/
2. **Excursions in Modern Mathematics** by Peter Tannenbaum; old editions are fine!
3. **For All Practical Purposes** by COMAP; old editions are fine!

Grading: You will be evaluated in the course in the areas below, weighted as follows.

Participation	8%	
Project	7%	
Homework	15%	
Three best Mini-Exams	25%	(about 8.33% each)
Three best Exams	45%	(15% each)

(One mini-exam score and one exam score will be dropped from your final grade.)
Your overall letter grade will be based on the following percentages (rounded to the nearest whole percent):

A 90%-100%   B 80%-89%   C 70%-79%   D 60%-69%   E 0%-59%

Important Math 111 Dates:
The following is a list of exam dates for the Fall 2015 semester (TENTATIVE!):

- Mini-Exam 1   Thursday, September 10
- Exam 1   Thursday, September 24
- Mini-Exam 2   Thursday, October 8
- Exam 2   Thursday, October 22
- Mini-Exam 3   Thursday, November 5
- Exam 3   Tuesday, November 17
- Mini-Exam 4   Thursday, December 3
- Final Exam: Thursday, December 17 10:30 a.m. - 12:30pm

Important Semester Dates:
The following is a list of important dates for the Fall 2015 semester:
- Wednesday, August 26: First day of classes
- Tuesday, September 1: Last day to add a class
- Monday, September 7: Labor Day break (academic holiday)
- Wednesday, September 16: Last day to drop a class without receiving a grade
- Friday, November 13: Last day to withdraw from a class
- November 25-27: Thanksgiving break (academic holiday)
- Friday, December 11: Last day of classes

Participation: Almost every class day that we don't have an exam, we will have some sort of worksheet or brief quiz that contributes to your recitation grade; the amounts will vary, but around three points a day. Once you accumulate 55 points, you have a perfect participation grade (there is no bonus).

Project: This portion of your grade will be earned by completing a written project. I will go into more detail about the project in the middle of the semester.

Homework: This portion of your grade will be earned by completing individual assignments outside of class. These assignments will be mainly online at
                        http://webwork.as.uky.edu/webwork2/MA111-Whitaker/
WebWork is free to students. Your login is your link blue ID (mine is ejwh226) and your password is initially your student number without the leading 9. Homework deadlines will be announced in class and posted on the course website. (The first homework should be available by Saturday August 29th.)

Mini-Exams: We will have a mini-exam midway through each of the four topics. They are designed more to give you an idea of the progress that you are making with the material. We will spend 20-25 minutes on mini-exam days, then cover new material. Your best three scores will count towards your course grade.

Exams: We will have four exams throughout the semester, one for each of the topics we cover. For each exam there will be a review worksheet provided and before each exam we will have time for in-class review (at least half of a day).

Course Help: If you find that you need help in the course, then you should see me AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! If the posted office hours do not work with your schedule please ask about an appointment. Free tutoring can be found in the Mathskeller, CB 063, M-F, 9-5, http://www.mathskeller.com.
Other resources (like The Study, your math major roommate, or whatever) can also be good, but not nearly as good as the resources listed above.

Note on Calculators: Please see this page for a description of permitted calculators which may be used on exams and mini-exams: http://www.actstudent.org/faq/calculator.html
You do not need a graphing calculator for this course; you will only need a basic calculator that can do addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, and exponents.

Math 111 Course Goals:
- To expose students to a variety of mathematical topics, many of which they would never see in a traditional algebra-based math class.
- To encourage students to persist in solving problems and to develop an appreciation for the beauty of mathematical solutions.
- To recognize the value of mathematics in solving a variety of practical (and fun!) problems in society and culture.

Student Learning Outcomes: This course will be an introduction to some modern mathematical methods in application to real life problems. It is expected that by the end of the semester, students will acquire an informal understanding of a variety of new mathematical methods and will be able to appreciate their power and beauty. By the end of the semester, students should be able to demonstrate a proficiency in the application of mathematical knowledge for modeling solutions to questions drawn from real life.

Rules and Regulations

UK Core: This course satisfies the Quantitative Foundations requirement of the UK Core General Education program, http://www.uky.edu/GenEd.

Excused Absences: See University Senate Rule 5.2.4.2 for what is considered an excused absence and official requirements. If you are participating in something planned, please inform me before you miss a class. If something unexpected happens, please inform me as soon as possible. You must provide appropriate documentation within a week of the missed day, and earlier for planned activities.

Academic Integrity, Cheating, and Plagiarism: You should feel free to study with friends, but any work you submit for a grade should be your own work. This applies to all exams, quizzes, and writing assignments, with the exception of assignments that are specifically designated as group assignments. Academic dishonesty, in any form, will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, copying a classmate's work, allowing a classmate to copy your work, modifying an exam after it has been handed back in an attempt to deceive the instructor into believing the assignment was graded incorrectly, using cell phone during an exam. A student found guilty of academic dishonesty will receive an automatic E on the assignment, and in some cases the offense may lead to an E for the course, academic probation, or even expulsion. See **sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 of the University Senate Rules** for more information regarding academic integrity.

Disability Accommodations: If you have documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible during scheduled office hours. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Suite 407, Multidisciplinary Science Building, 859-257-2754, email address dtbeac1@uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.