Contemporary Mathematics

MA111 Syllabus

Section 006
Fall 2011
Course Code: schmidt06765
MWF 2pm in CB242

Jack Schmidt
http://www.ms.uky.edu/~jack/
⟨jack.schmidt@uky.edu⟩
Office: POT963
Cell: (512) 522-5137

Schedule: Dr. Schmidt holds office hours in the Mathskeller (CB63) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00am-10:00am and Fridays from 4:00pm-5:00pm. Four exams are given during our normal class meeting. The fifth and final exam is Friday Dec 16, 8:00am-10:00am. We will continue to have in-class activities and online homework during the last week of class.

Policies: Behave professionally in class, and address your peers in the classroom courteously. If you need to make an emergency call or text, please quietly excuse yourself and handle the emergency outside of the classroom. Inform me in writing before September 14th of any special accommodations needed for religious reasons, and as soon as possible for disability or extra-curricular reasons.

Please inform your instructor in advance and in writing of any absences. Class absences not reported in writing within one week of the first day of absence are not excused; exam absences not reported within 12 hours of the beginning of the exam are not excused. Exam absences are only excused if they meet the university excused absence policy and are subject to strict verification. Excused absences will not lower your grade, but unexcused absences result in no credit for that day's attendance and recitation points. Homework must be turned in through the (commercial) online homework system MyMathLab, and late work will only be accepted with a large penalty. The out-of-class project must be turned in on the BlackBoard system.

Additional policies are on the longer syllabus available on the course webpage:
http://www.ms.uky.edu/~jack/2011-08-MA111/.

In writing means paper in my POT715 mailbox, email to <jack.schmidt@uky.edu>, or text to 512-522-5137. In all cases, leave a clear message including your name and course (MA111).

Content: We will cover two main themes of mathematics: strategy and beauty. The textbook, Excursions in Modern Mathematics by Peter Tannenbaum (Third custom edition for UK; ISBN 1-256-30145-0), **bundled with MyMathLab access**, will be required, including a publisher access code typically only available from new textbooks.

We will cover democratically choosing between several alternatives (Chapter 1; Voting). We will study the mysterious ebb and flow of wealth (Chapter 10; Money). We will wander the corridors of a giant maze (Chapter 5; Getting around). We will classify some classical ideas of beauty (Chapter 11; Symmetry). We will learn to fairly divide treasure with pirates (Chapter 3; Sharing).

Grading: Your grade derives from exams, online homework, in-class activities, and a substantial out-of-class project.

- 50% from five exams (10% each)
- 30% online homework
- 15% in-class activities and attendance
- 5% a project to be described in early October and due in early November.

Your grades are numerical and on the standard scale: 90% and up is an A, 80%-89% is a B, 70%-79% is a C, 60%-69% is a D, and below 60% is an E.

Collaboration: Collaboration is encouraged. Any work turned in for grading will be individually assessed and should represent an individual's work, but it is assumed that that work was done in a collegial atmosphere. Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Your ideas are valuable; please present your own ideas after having listened to the ideas of your colleagues. Ideas are meant to be shared, understood, and reshaped, not simply copied. Cheating on quizzes or tests will be handled in accordance with university policy, and can result in a failing grade for the entire course and even more serious consequences.