

## Syllabus for Math 280W: Introduction to Proof Fall 2013

---

**Instructor:** Breeann Flesch

**Contact Information:** office: MNB 126 phone: (503) 838-9489\*  
email: fleschb@wou.edu\* webpage: www.wou.edu/~fleschb

**Materials:**

**Textbook:** *How To Prove It: A Structured Approach, Second Edition* by Daniel J. Velleman, Cambridge University Press.

**Schedule:**

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00			Office Hour		
10:00			Office Hour	Math 213	
11:00		Math 213	Math 213	Math 213	Math 213
12:00				Office Hour	
1:00		Office Hour			Office Hour
2:00		Math 280	Math 280	Math 280	Math 280
3:00		Math 355	Math 355	Math 355	Math 355
4:00		Meeting			

You do not need to make an appointment to come to office hours. At times other than my listed office hours you are welcome and encouraged to call or email me with questions about the course. If you have scheduling conflicts with my office hours and would like further help, please let me know.

**Course Description:**

MTH 280 Introduction to Proof (4)

An introduction to basic proof strategies and elementary logic. Elementary set and function theory. Prerequisite: MTH 252 with grade of C- or better. (Offered Spring quarter)

**Learning Outcomes:** At the end of the course, the successful student will know:

- basic proof techniques that will be used in upper division courses,
- more about the nature of mathematics and, particularly, the role of proof in mathematics;
- introductory aspects of writing in the mathematics profession; and
- foundational theory of basic logic, sets, functions and relations.

**Class Webpage:** There is a link for the class webpage on my home page ([www.wou.edu/~fleschb/](http://www.wou.edu/~fleschb/)). There you will find the schedule for the class, including dates for homework and exams.

**Homework:** Completing your homework in a timely fashion is integral to your success in any course. Exams are based on homework problems and in-class activities. Homework will be posted on the website and is due **every Friday by 2:00 pm** for grading. **Late homework will not be accepted.** The lowest homework score will be dropped.

**Writing:** This course is a designated “writing intensive” course. That designation affects the course only slightly since it already involves much writing in the homework, as do most advanced math classes. Much of our writing is informal, for example, outlining proofs in the homework. Some writing is formal, for instance, writing complete proofs in standard mathematical style. There will also be approximately four special writing assignments, some of which will be short essays *about* math and some of which will *be* math.

**Quizzes:** Most Wednesdays there will be a short quiz. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

**Exams:** There will be two midterm exams and a final exam. The midterms are tentatively scheduled for Fri. 10/25 and Fri. 11/22. Makeup exams are generally not given. If you must miss an exam due to a documented emergency or a documented university sanctioned absence from class please inform me ASAP. Cell phones may not be used as calculators during an exam and must be turned off.

**Grade:** The standard grading scale will be used for this class. Your grade will be assessed on the following criteria. Grades are posted on Moodle and it is your responsibility to check it regularly.

Homework	15%
Quizzes	15%
Writing	20% (must pass this part to pass the class)
Exams	$15\% \times 2 = 30\%$
Final	20%

**Attendance:**

Daily attendance is required for your success in this course. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to ask a classmate for notes on the material that you have missed.

**Wolf Connection System Referral Program:** Students in this class may be referred to the WOU Student Success Specialist (SSS) if the instructor determines their performance in the class is placing them at academic risk. The SSS will offer to work with referred students to address issues and develop a student success strategy. Irrespective of whether a referral has or has not been made, you are ultimately responsible for tracking your own progress in this course.

**Appropriate Classroom Behavior:** You are ultimately responsible for your own attendance and performance. It is expected that electronic devices such as cell phones will be turned off during class. Proscribed Conduct for all students is described in the University Catalog.

**Incomplete Policy:** An Incomplete can only be granted for a student who is passing a class and has a documented emergency that prevents them from completing a small component of the course.

**Accommodations:** Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office of Disability Services at 503-838-8250 to coordinate accommodations. Students needing medical or mental health care can access the Student Health and Counseling Center by calling 503-838-8313, emailing at health@wou.edu, or by walking in to schedule an appointment.

**Veterans and Active Military Personnel:** Veterans and Active Military Personnel with special circumstances are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to the instructor.