

# MTH 105 Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics Syllabus

Fall 2013

Class Meets MTWF 12-12:50pm in MNB 130

Final Exam **Monday** 12/9 12-1:50pm

Instructor: Dr. Cheryl Beaver

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Office hours<sup>1</sup> : M 9-9:50; T 1-1:50; W 11-11:50; F 1-1:50

Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics is a course designed for liberal arts students that focuses on mathematical problem solving activities from real world situations to convey the application of mathematics. This course will include instruction in descriptive and inferential statistics, probability, consumer buying, savings and loans, problem solving, and other various topics. Emphasis will be placed on mathematical reasoning.

## Required Materials:

- *The Heart of Mathematics* with Wiley Plus, by Burger & Starbird. ISBN: 9781118556825
- To register for the online homework for this class follow this link: <http://edugen.wileyplus.com/edugen/class/cls355355/>.
- Calculator

## Learning Outcomes include:

- Understand and appreciate the many ways in which mathematics is used in problem-solving and the various applications to real-world situations.
- Develop confidence in your ability to understand, question and analyze the mathematics that arise in your daily life.
- Develop techniques to solve problems that require mathematical concepts and quantitative reasoning.
- Carry out appropriate calculations, apply formulas or algorithms with the knowledge of the underlying mathematical principles, and draw conclusions from the results.
- Understand the basics of probability and risk.

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<sup>1</sup>Please feel free to drop by my office during my office hours for help. 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 direct scheduling conflicts with my office hours and would like further help, please let me know.

- Be able to read and make graphs.
- Understand the basic measures of center and variation.
- Understand and use formulas related to money matters.

**Course webpage** Most course material including homework assignments will be posted on our course webpage: <http://www.wou.edu/~beaverc/> (follow links to 105). It is a good idea to bookmark this page and check it daily.

**Attendance** Attendance is required for success in this class. Mathematical topics often build on one another so missing a class can set you behind for quite a while. If you miss class you are responsible for missed material and to stay up to date on all assignments.

**Class structure** Class periods will be a mixture of lecture and group work. Students are encouraged to speak up during class and engage in mathematical discussions.

**Homework** Online homework will be assigned regularly through the WileyPlus online system. An access code is required for the course and to do your homework. Other written homework for turn in directly to the instructor will also be assigned periodically. **Late written homework is not accepted**, however your lowest homework score (online or written, not both) will be dropped.

**Quizzes** Weekly quizzes will be given on Friday of each non-exam week. **Missed quizzes may not be made up**, however your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

**Exams** Two exams will be given during the term. The dates are subject to change but will likely be during weeks four and seven. Makeup exams will only be available in the case of a documented emergency or university sanctioned absence from class. Prior notification and my agreement are required. My voice mail and email are always on; there is no excuse for not contacting me prior to missing an exam. If your score on the final exam is higher than your lowest midterm score, then your final exam score will replace the lowest midterm score.

**Final Exam** The final exam will be given at a group time on Monday 12/9 from 12-1:50pm. The location will be announced at a later date. The final exam will be cumulative.

**Due dates and late policy** Online work is generally due by 11:59 pm on its due date. Online homework may be done after the due date, but your score will be reduced by 30%. Written homework may not be turned in late. Unless otherwise noted, written work is due by 4:30 p.m. on its due date (at times work may be due at the beginning of class). Assignments and due dates are posted on the class website and are subject to change so check the website often. It is your responsibility to know when your assignments are due.

**Tutoring** Students are encouraged to take advantage of the free tutoring available at the Math Center in Hamersly Library (Room 228) Monday through Thursday from 1-6 pm. For more information see [http://www.wou.edu/las/natsci\\_math/math/tutor/](http://www.wou.edu/las/natsci_math/math/tutor/).

**Grades** Your grade will be based on the following

Homework	20 %
Quizzes	20 %
Exam 1	20 %
Exam 2	20 %
Final Exam	20 %

The usual grading scale will be applied

% Range	Grade	% Range	Grade	% Range	Grade
93-100	A	80-82	B-	60-69	D
90-92	A-	77-79	C+	Below 60	F
87-89	B+	73-76	C		
83-86	B	70-72	C-		

**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 and put away during class. You may not use a cell phone during a quiz or an exam. If you are disruptive during class you will be asked to leave and you will be responsible for all material missed. Proscribed Conduct for all students is described in the University Catalog.

**Learning Disabilities** If you have a documented learning disability, please talk to me during the first few days of class. If you have a documented disability which requires accommodations, you must go to the Office of Disability Services (ODS) for appropriate coordination of your accommodations.

**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.

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

**Student Success Specialist** 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.