

MATH 20043 COURSE SYLLABUS SPRING 2013
MATHEMATICS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

INSTRUCTOR: Ms. Allison Owen Office: TUC 318
817-257-6127 a.owen@tcu.edu
webpage: www.faculty.tcu.edu/aowen

COURSE OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this course is to help the prospective elementary teacher learn to think critically and mathematically. The basic foundations of mathematics will be stressed in the development of problem-solving skills and an understanding of the operations and properties of the real number system and basic topics in geometry. The focus of this course is thus upon gaining a solid comprehension of mathematical fundamentals, rather than upon teaching techniques.

Specific topics for this course will include an introduction to problem-solving strategies, sets, numeration systems, development of the operations and properties of whole numbers, integers, fractions, and decimals, elementary number theory, and an introduction to the geometry of polygons, circles, polyhedra and spheres.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of the Core Curriculum Mathematical Reasoning requirement.

OFFICE HOURS: Drop-in hours are given below. At other times, voicemail or email messages may be left. Appointments outside of office hours may be made when I am available – **please call or email for appointments.**

The purpose of office hours is to provide additional instruction and assistance to those students who have been attending class. Please be advised that I can spend very limited time outside of class with those students who do not attend class regularly.

DROP-IN OFFICE HOURS:
Monday thru Friday 11:00 – 12:00 & Tuesday, Thursday 2:00 – 3:00

REQUIRED:

- *Mathematics for Elementary Teachers* by Bennett, Burton and Nelson, 8th edition. (Student Solutions Manual is optional.)
- Scientific calculator. A TI-84 graphing calculator is recommended.

• **The last day to withdraw** is Thursday, March 21st. The mandatory, cumulative **Final Exam** will be on Friday, May 10th at 8:00 a.m.

- All University policies published in the student handbook are in effect. Please always refer to University policies.

GRADING SCALE:

92-100%	A	88-89%	B+	78-79%	C+	68-69%	D+
		82-87%	B	72-77%	C	62-67%	D
90-91%	A-	80-81%	B-	70-71%	C-	60-61%	D-
						0-59%	F

COURSE GRADE WILL BE BASED ON:

- **Homework** **10%**
The lowest two homework scores will be dropped.
- **4 Exams (17% each)** **68%**
- **Cumulative Final Exam [Mandatory]** **22%**
There will be no exemptions from taking the Final Exam.

• Formula:

Course grade = (Homework average)*0.10+(Exam average)*0.68+(Final Exam)*0.22

• **Grade replacement:** The Final Exam grade can be used to replace the lowest exam grade up to a maximum of 75 points. The Final Exam score is not affected by the replacement.

• If you wish to discuss a grade, see the instructor in person in her office (NOT between classes).

ATTENDANCE, TARDINESS, & SEATING:

• Attendance will be taken daily. It is the student's responsibility to locate and sign the roll sheet at each class meeting. Absence from class is strongly discouraged—it can be difficult for students to catch up in a mathematics class. Although occasionally one may need to arrive late to class, there is no excuse for doing so consistently. Class participation, attendance, habitual tardiness and leaving class early will be noted and influential in borderline-grade situations.

• A mature and respectful demeanor is expected at all times; students who visit during class are not respecting their classmates' right to hear the lecture. Similarly, texting and laptop use are not appropriate during class. Students may sit where they like in the classroom unless the instructor is given cause to provide a seating arrangement.

• After an absence, students should arrange with a classmate to get lecture notes they have missed. Students are responsible for learning material they have missed; the instructor will answer specific questions, but is unable to re-lecture to each student who has missed a class.

HOMEWORK & PREPARING FOR CLASS:

- Bring your calculator to **each** class. You may wish to bring your textbook as well. **Do homework and reading**, and have questions ready **as soon as class begins**.
- A list of recommended practice problems will be provided for each chapter. On most days, selected problems will be assigned to **hand in**. See Assignment Sheet for details. These assignments will be due at the **beginning** of the following class period. A few questions will be discussed at the beginning of class as time permits, before homework papers are handed in. Homework handed after this point in the class period will be assessed a **penalty**.
- Homework will be graded for correctness. Papers should be readable, organized, & fastened together. Work must be completely shown so that the grader can determine partial credit. Late homework will not be accepted for full credit except under the circumstances stated below, subject to the instructor's determination.
 - If a student will miss a class due to a university activity, the student must inform the instructor **in advance** if a homework assignment will be turned in late. Such late homework papers must be turned in at the **beginning** of the **next** class period.
 - If a student misses a class due to illness or family emergency, the student is expected to contact the instructor immediately. Otherwise, such assignments may not be accepted for full credit. The instructor will determine when this assignment is due, based on circumstances.
 - If a student fails to hand in an assignment on time under any other circumstances, it will be assessed a **penalty** if received at the beginning of the following class period. Otherwise, a **zero** will be recorded for that assignment.
- Students are encouraged to study together and to take advantage of the instructor's office hours. Appointment times are also available for those students unable to come during office hours. Also, many questions over homework can be answered via email.
- The lowest two homework scores will be dropped at the end of the semester. The remaining scores will be averaged to make up 10% of the total course grade.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

- Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. The minimum penalty will be a zero on the academic exercise and the forwarding of a report to the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering. At the Dean's discretion, the penalty may be course failure or expulsion from TCU depending upon circumstances. For more information on these topics, please refer to your Student Handbook.

EXAMS:

- **During exams, all devices MUST be turned off and put away.**
- In the event that an exam is scheduled on the day that class is canceled (due to inclement weather or some other such unavoidable event), that exam will be administered during the next class meeting.
- Exams will begin promptly at the beginning of class on the days scheduled. Students who arrive late should NOT expect extra time.
- Texas Christian University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. Eligible students seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator for Students Disabilities Services in the Center for Academic Services located in Sadler Hall, 1010. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore students should contact the Coordinator as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Further information can be obtained from the Center for Academic Services, TCU Box 297710, Fort Worth, TX 76129, or at (817) 257-6567.
- Under NO other circumstances will students be given extra time on exams.
- If a student will miss an exam because of a university activity, the student **must** make **prior arrangements** to make up the exam.
- If a student misses an exam because of illness or family emergency, the student is expected to contact the instructor **immediately**. Depending on the circumstances, the instructor may allow the student to take a make-up exam before the exams are returned to the class. Unless a **documented** emergency exists, a **penalty** will be assessed on an escalating scale of points for taking the exam after the class period in which the exam was given. If **extreme** circumstances make it impossible for the student to take the exam before the graded exams are returned to the class, the instructor and the Office of Campus Life must be contacted, and special arrangements made. Ongoing documentation of the situation will be required.
- Calculators MAY NOT be shared for exams. Hats or caps MAY NOT be worn during exams. All books, bags, papers, electronic devices, and backpacks must be put away during exams. Seating may be assigned for exams.
- Some formulas will be given for exams. Specific information will be given each review day.
- The Final Exam for the course is cumulative and mandatory. Permission to reschedule will be given only at the discretion of the instructor. The complete Final Exam schedule is available on the Registrar's web site.
- **IMPORTANT REMINDER:** As you prepare for exams, make sure that you have worked problems **WITHOUT** your notes, text, or other help, just as you would **in a testing situation**.