

MATH 105
Mathematics Applications, Appreciation & Skills
Section 5
SPRING 2017
MT R 4:00 – 4:50 SCI A213
Required Tutoring Session: W 4:00 – 4:50 SCI A213

Instructor: Dr. Susan Talarico

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Office Hours: T 12:00 – 12:50

W 11:00 – 11:50

R 1:00 – 1:50

*or by appointment *

Text: The Heart of Mathematics: An Invitation to Effective Thinking, 3rd-ed. by Edward Burger & Michael Starbird.

Prerequisite: Math 90 or a suitable placement score.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is **required** at each class period. It is your responsibility to obtain notes and information from any missed class time. All arrangements for make-up quizzes and exams must be made before the scheduled exam time, and then will be given only for sufficient reason. Late tests will not be given for unexcused absences. Absences for serious illness, family emergencies, military duty or University sponsored activities may be excused provided you adequately notify me by email prior to the absence and provide appropriate documentation. Homework assignment due dates may be adjusted for excused absences. *More than 4 unexcused absences will lower your grade.*

Course Outline:

In this course, we will explore some of the greatest ideas within the realm of mathematics - comparable to the works of Shakespeare and Plato. Mathematics is an artistic endeavor, which is shaped by each person's imagination and creativity. There are three basic goals for this course:

1. To attain a better understanding of some significant mathematical ideas.
2. To sharpen our analytic skills for life issues that are beyond mathematics.
3. To develop a fresh perspective and outlook on your view of the world.

We will cover only part of the text, as there is more than a semester's worth of material presented therein. This will include about six different topics. The "bottom line," so to speak, is to gain an appreciation for mathematics and to discover the power of mathematical thinking in your everyday life. It is essential in this course to have an open mind, a piqued curiosity, and a willingness to explore and discover. Minimal mathematical background will be assumed.

This course satisfies the Quantitative Literacy Requirement. In particular, it addresses the following:

Quantitative Literacy Learning Outcomes

- Select, analyze, and interpret appropriate numerical data used in everyday life in numerical and graphical format.
- Identify and apply appropriate strategies of quantitative problem solving in theoretical and practical applications.
- Construct a conclusion using quantitative justification.

For more information see: <http://www.uwsp.edu/acadaff/Pages/generalEducation.aspx>

Evaluation: There will be a total of 600 pts. for the semester.

Homework: (120 out of 600 pts.)

Homework from WileyPlus will be assigned for each section covered in class. Textbook HW will also be assigned for some sections. Your success in learning the material presented requires that you complete each assignment and do not fall behind. We will use class time to go over some of your questions regarding the assignments. We will not, however, have enough class time to answer all questions that arise. The Wednesday tutoring session will be a good time to get HW questions answered. Your textbook and classmates are also valuable resources. **NO LATE HW WILL BE ACCEPTED** unless you have an excused absence.

Exams: There will be 3 exams, each worth 120 points. (360 out of 600 pts.)

Tentative dates:

Thursday, February 23

Thursday, March 30

Thursday, May 4

Again, make-up exams will be available only in very special cases and will be handled on an individual basis. Notification and arrangements in such cases must be made prior to the examination.

NOTE: Once an exam has been passed out, you may not leave the classroom until you've turned in your exam.

Final Research Project: (120 out of 600 pts.)

This project is an opportunity to explore and discover a mathematical topic on one's own. Students will select a mathematical topic outside of those covered in our class, learn any necessary background information and then investigate the topic. This may be a topic that is related to your discipline, for instance, or you may choose to depict a mathematical idea in a creative way (via a song or poem, for example). Students may work individually or in a group of two (collaboration encouraged - it's fun!). *Each student will submit an abstract of the intention for their project, write a final paper on their findings and present a poster display at the end of the semester* (during the last few class periods and the **final exam period:** Tuesday, May 16, 5:00-7:00). Some interim reports on the progress of the project will be collected during the semester. Discussion and further details will be provided during class.

Grading and Grading Scale:

Homework:	120 pts. = 20%
Exams:	360 pts. = 60%
Research Project:	120 pts. = 20%
Total:	600 pts. = 100%

Course letter grades will be based on the scale below,
with + and - marks within each range:

- A: 90 - 100
- B: 80 - 89
- C: 70 - 79
- D: 60 - 69
- F: below 60

I may use discretion to raise a student's grade if her/his final grade does not reflect the quality of her/his work in the course (for example, from a low exam score early in the course). I will not, however, use such discretion to lower a student's final grade.

In accordance with UW system policies, Math 105 is dedicated to a safe, supportive and non-discriminatory environment for all persons regardless of age, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

You are expected to be fully aware of your rights and responsibilities as a UWSP student:

These are detailed in the UWSP Community Bill of Rights and Responsibilities:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>

In particular, this includes the UWSP Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/stuaffairs/Documents/RightsRespons/SRR-2010/rightsChap17.pdf>

Information concerning accommodations made as per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act can be found at:

<http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/>

In particular, to request any accommodations of this type, relevant to this class, discuss the matter with the Disability Services Office. Information and contact information may be found at:

<http://www4.uwsp.edu/special/disability/ToQualifyforDisabilityServicesProcedure/> .

SECTIONS TO BE COVERED:

* This is a tentative list *

Here are the sections that I intend to cover. There may be some adjustment based on time available and student interest.

CH 1:

1.1 - 1.4

CH 2:

2.1 - 2.3, 2.6, 2.7

CH 3:

3.1-3.3

CH 4:

4.1, 4.3 - 4.5

CH 5:

5.2

CH 6:

6.1, 6.2, other sections possibly, based on time

CH 7:

7.1, 7.2