

Eric Pleasant

Texas A & M University - Commerce

Office: Binnion 316

Phone: 903-886-5952

Email: Eric.Pleasant@tamuc.edu

Math 179 Syllabus and Policy

TR 3:00 – 4:15

FALL 2012

Office Hours: MW 11:30 – 12:30, TR 11:00 – 12:00, TR 1:30 – 2:30

Course Placement: To be placed in this course, you should have a THEA math score greater than or equal to 230 OR a COMPASS placement into this course OR you have passed Math 131 with at least a C.

Course Description: (3 semester hours) Passing Math 179 US Mathematical Applications and Philosophy will satisfy the mathematics requirement for most art, music, criminal justice, literature / language, and some sociology degrees. Included in the course this semester are studies in statistics, functions, and finance.

Student Learning Outcomes for Math 179: A Math 179 should be able to

1. understand financial concepts such as interest, annuities, and amortization.
2. organize, display, and describe data
3. understand trigonometric concepts
4. solve systems of linear equations
5. solve exponential and logarithmic equations

Class Format: Class time will be spent in lecture, demonstrations, group work, and tests.

Textbook: Mathematics: A Practical Odyssey 7th Edition, by Johnson and Mowry ISBN 978-0-538-49505-9

At CengageBrain.com, students will have the option to rent their textbooks, purchase print textbooks, eBooks, or individual eChapters all for substantial savings over average retail prices. CengageBrain.com also includes Cengage Learning's broad range of homework and study tools, and features a selection of free content.

<http://www.cengagebrain.com/shop/isbn/9780538495059?cid=D2S>

Supplies: **TI-83 or 84** (any version) **highly recommended**, notebook paper (8½ X 11 in., wide- or college-ruled, no spiral), and **PENCILS**. (All work must be completed in pencil.)

Attendance: Attendance is one of the keys to success in this course. Each class period will cover new material that is important, therefore, attendance will be checked each class period. All students are expected to be present daily. If a student misses a class, he/she is still expected to come to the next class period **PREPARED**. There are no "excused" or "unexcused" absences in this class, although a written note or email explaining an absence is always appreciated by the instructor.

If a student representing TAMU-Commerce on an athletic team, departmental team, band, cheerleading, choir, debate, or other group misses class, he/she must notify the instructor in writing with the coach's / sponsor's signature one week before the anticipated absence in order to not be counted absent. Arrangements for make-up work will be made at that time.

If a student has no absences during the entire semester and fewer than 3 tardies total, he / she will receive 5 points on the final exam grade.

*******According to the TAMU-Commerce catalog, Math 179 CANNOT BE DROPPED.*******

DAILY GRADES: 15%: Quizzes

- Quizzes will be approximately 10 - 15 minutes in length. Each quiz will be worth 10 points. Homework may be used on the quizzes.
- Time will NOT be spent going over homework or activities during the regular class period. If you have questions, email or come by my office (Binnion 316) during tutorials BEFORE the assignment is due. If that is not possible, be sure to see me for help before the test.

3 MAJOR TESTS will EACH count 20%, (total 60%):

- The majority of the questions on each test will be problem-solving, although short answer may be included. Partial credit may be given IF all work is neatly shown. Items should NOT need interpretation for full credit to be given.
- Because emergency situations may occur that affect a student's performance on an exam or may even prevent a student from attending on a test day, a student's lowest test grade may be replaced by the final exam grade, if the final exam grade is higher than the lowest test grade.
- NOTE: Students are NOT allowed to leave the room during a quiz or test. Take care of any personal needs, such as using the restroom facilities, before the quiz or test.
- CELL PHONES or other electronic devices IN SIGHT during a QUIZ or TEST will result in a ZERO on the quiz or test.

FINAL EXAM: 25%

The Final Exam will be a comprehensive exam. The best study guide for the final exam will be the major tests. The final exam will be administered on Thursday, December 13th from 1:15 – 3:15.

Grading Scale: A: [90, 100+), B: [80, 90), C: [70, 80), D: [60, 70), F: [0, 60)

Classroom Environment: *"All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment."* (Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

We are all here to learn. Therefore, ANY distractions to the learning environment will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, electronic devices ringing, caps/hats that obstruct the view of another student, inappropriate dress, and/or disrespect toward another student or the instructor. Students who do not abide by this policy will be asked to leave, counted absent, and receive a zero(s) for any daily work.

Getting Help: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce, Halladay Student Services Building, Room 303 A/D, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

For help with assignments, classroom activities, or any thing else, please feel free to drop in during my posted office hours, or call me. Outside these hours, please email me. I will check my email several times a day in order to reply as promptly as possible.

The MATH SKILLS CENTER (Binnion 328) was created to provide help for all that need it. Computer tutorials and peer tutors are available according to the following schedule:

Monday, Wednesday: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Thursday: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Friday: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Academic Integrity: Because the majority of students are honest in their school work, I accept the responsibility to take measures to protect you, an honest student, from the few students who would take advantage of you and obtain grades by fraudulent or deceptive means. Please understand that the efforts to prevent cheating in this class are made out of respect and obligation to you as an honest person, not as an insult. Your cooperation will reduce the inconvenience and encourage the person who is tempted to cheat to do his/her work honestly. Academic dishonesty takes many forms:

- Giving or receiving answers during an exam or quiz.
- Viewing the exam or quiz answers of a nearby classmate.
- Having notes / practice work available during quizzes or tests.
- Possession or access to test items before the test is given.
- Deception in getting an excused absence to obtain the undeserved opportunity to make-up work.
- The **PRESENCE of ELECTRONIC DEVICES**, such as **CELL PHONES, TEXTING DEVICES or MUSIC PLAYERS during a quiz or test** will result in the owner receiving a zero on the quiz or test.
- Any method, no matter how well rationalized or accepted, which improves a person's grade by any means other than study and skillful performances on exams and/or other assignments.

Students found guilty of an act of academic dishonesty in this course will be subject to the following actions in this course: A first violation in a class will result in a zero on the task / assignment / quiz / test. No make-up will be allowed nor will you be allowed a retake test substitution in the case of an exam. A second violation in a class will result in an "F" in the course, regardless of current average. Appropriate offices will be notified in all incidents.

Grade Reporting for Freshmen: Grades for students in freshmen level classes will be reported to the Registrar's Office at the end of the fifth week of class during the fall and spring semesters. The Registrar's Office will report grades to students, Advising Services, Academic Departments (faculty advisors) and mentors. This procedure will allow students to be knowledgeable about their academic progress early in the semester. The university, through Advising Services, faculty advisors, and mentors, will take steps to assist students who may be experiencing difficulty to focus on improvement and course completion. Early intervention for freshmen students is designed to communicate to students the University's interest in their success and willingness to participate fully to help students accomplish their objectives.

**By remaining enrolled in this section of Math 179,
you are agreeing to abide by these policies.**