Math 179
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2013

Instructor: Joshua Patterson
Office Location: Binnion Hall Room 316
Office Hours: MW: 3:30pm-5:00pm, TR: 12:00pm-2:15pm
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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbooks: Mathematics: A Practical Odyssey, by Johnson & Mowry, 7th Edition, Brooks - Cole Publishing (Chapters 4, 5, 8, and 10) - Chapters can be purchased online. (see below)
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

Graphing calculator (preferably a version of TI-83 or TI-84), notebook paper, and PENCILS. (All work must be completed in pencil.)

Course Description:

Math 179 – Applications and Philosophy (3 sch): Applications of mathematics which may include finance, graph theory, linear programming, statistics, probability, coding theory and conic sections; logic; topics from the history of mathematics; the mathematical method and philosophy; mathematical writings.

Course Content:

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 finance, geometry, and functions.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the successful student will be able to:

1. understand financial concepts such as interest, annuities, and amortization.
2. organize, display, and describe data
3. understand geometric concepts
4. solve application problems dealing with functions
5. work with various function types, including exponential and logarithmic

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods: Class will consist of lectures, demonstrations, group work, and tests.

Daily Work: Homework will be assigned most class periods. This work should be done in groups when possible. **It is extremely important for you to work all homework in order to be prepared for the exams.** We will also be working on certain supplemental assignments which will often have to be completed as homework. Selected papers will be turned in for a grade. The total number of assignments that are completed and turned in (punctually) by the student will be reflected in the Daily Work grade. A grade will be taken on select problems from each homework assignment. **Late work will not be accepted, no matter what the cause.**

Quizzes: Both individual and group quizzes may be given occasionally. Since regular attendance is expected, **NO make-up quizzes will be given**. This class covers enough material that there is no time to be missed that is a "good time", and each quiz will be over material to be emphasized on exams. Quizzes will be averaged into your Daily Work grade.

Attendance: I will be taking roll every class. All students are expected to be present, and attendance will be reflected in your Daily Work grade. If you miss a class, come see me for any missed assignments. **Please do not approach me as I am beginning a class period**, unless it is an emergency, so that we might start ON TIME. Please be in your seat and ready to work when class begins.

Projects: Approximately once a month, I will assign special projects for students to work on outside of class, sometimes in groups. These projects will vary in their scope and should be completed neatly and punctually.

Tests: Tests will be given after a complete chapter or subject area. There will be THREE "chapter" exams which may consist of a variety of problems and short answer questions. However, students should expect the bulk of the questions on each test to be problem solving. Partial credit may be given on exams IF all work is neatly shown so that I can easily determine the student's mistakes. When pictures are drawn, students should be careful that figures are clearly marked and easily understood. Explanations should be explicit and understandable to the audience given. Items should NOT need interpretation if full credit is to be given.
Replacing a Low Test Grade: I realize that at times throughout the semester, emergency situations may arise that affect a student's performance on an exam or even prevent a student from attending on a test day. However, **make-up exams will NOT be given unless confirmed ahead of time and accompanied by a documented, University excused absence**. Therefore, I am willing to replace the student's ONE lowest exam grade with the student's grade on the corresponding portion of the final exam, provided the grade on that section of the final exam is higher. This provision will only be applied to ONE exam, so students should make every effort to be present and well-prepared for all exams.
       Tests will be given on the following dates: **February 12th, March 21st, and April 25th**. Any changes to these dates will be communicated during class times.

Final: Our final is a comprehensive exam. The Class Schedule gives our time to have our final exam as **Tuesday, May 7th, 179.003 @ 10:30-12:30 and 179.004 @ 1:15-3:15. Do not expect a makeup exam for the final.**

Grading Policy:

Section:	Total:
Daily Work and Projects	20%
Tests (3 exams)	60%
Comprehensive Final	20%

Grading Scale: A: 90 – 100; B: 80 – 89; C: 70 – 79;   D: 60 – 69; F: 0 – 59. Note: A grade of "D" is considered passing for this course.

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

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Internet access

Word processing software (Microsoft Word preferred/compatibility required) and a spreadsheet software (Microsoft Excel preferred/compatibility required)

Email access is required. Please utilize your A&M-Commerce email address, or make me aware of your alternate email address.

A TI-83 calculator (or above) is REQUIRED for this course.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:
Students will be expected to interact with the instructor in class or via electronic means in an
appropriate manner. All instructor contact information is listed on this syllabus and should
be used. Please use email to facilitate a quick response.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

Supplemental Instructions: Throughout the course of your work in this class, you will be given additional written instructions that govern the look, content and scope of your projects. These supplemental instructions have the same force as the syllabus for grading purposes.

Math Skills Center: The Math Skills Center, located in Binnion 328, is open Monday and Wednesday, 8am – 8pm; Tuesday and Thursday, 8am – 6pm; Friday, 8am – 3pm. For information on which tutors would be best to help, and when they are working, feel free to see me or the bulletin board outside the lab.

TRIO Program: TRIO Program is available for students who qualify for additional resources, such as private tutoring. In order to qualify, students must meet certain conditions, such as

being a first-generation college student. For more information, contact TRIO at 903-886-5833 or in the Halladay Student Services building, Room 301.

Comments: I will do my best to make a quality presentation each day and, in return, I expect that you will do your best to learn the material presented in class and in the text. This course will be taught as hands-on as possible, and student participation is necessary daily. It is important that you be actively engaged in any group activities. Questions are welcome in the classroom, and I will gladly schedule outside help sessions if necessary. I know that together, these efforts can contribute significantly to your education in this class.

As stated in the Student Handbook, academic dishonesty in the class will not be tolerated. If any materials or equipment are found to be available to the student at any time which is considered inappropriate by the instructor, the very fact that the materials are inappropriately available to the student is grounds for an accusation of academic dishonesty. The instructor reserves the right to fail the student for the assignment or the course, as well as report the student to the Academic Dean and/or the Dean of Students. The instructor considers this an extremely serious matter. Please make sure you are not in a situation that could be viewed negatively.

I find that a majority of students are honest in doing their school work. However, we must take measures to protect the academic integrity of the classroom**. I have a NO TOLERANCE policy for cheating and if you are caught cheating, you will fail that portion of the course, and possibly the entire course.** Cheating in this course is defined as the following:

- Giving or receiving answers during an exam or quiz.
- Viewing the exam or quiz answers of nearby classmates.
- Having notes/practice work/etc. 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.
- Use of cell phones or text messaging technology during exams or quizzes. **You may NOT use the calculator on your cell phones or any other similar electronic devices (such as I-Pods, I-Touch, etc.). IF ONE OF THESE DEVICES IS AVAILABLE, IN ANY WAY, DURING AN EXAM OR QUIZ, THE STUDENT WILL BE GIVEN AN AUTOMATIC "0" ON THE ASSIGNMENT.**
- Improper citations in written works, or using another person's ideas and words as your own without giving proper credit.
- **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 receiving an "F" in this course.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement: 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
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

Student Conduct: All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook).*

All students are expected to exercise self-discipline and respect for the rights of others at all times. Behavioral disruptions that interfere with the business of the classroom or with an individual's ability to learn may be referred to the Dean of Students.

Please be sure that cell phones and other electronic devices are off or silent. If you expect to have to get up, please select an inconspicuous position to minimize disruptions. Courtesy to others is important. That means respecting the opinions of others, and in general, doing your part to make this a positive learning environment for all students. Food and beverages, while acceptable, should be consumed as quietly as possible, and you must clean up after yourself.

Remaining enrolled in this course constitutes acceptance of all policies contained in this syllabus.

Any changes to this syllabus will be communicated directly to you in class by the instructor. You are responsible for being aware of any such changes.

Good luck and work hard!!