

Course Materials: The last chapters in the textbook will be discussed (Chapters 10 – 17). *You should already know how to do the computations for most of the material. Therefore the goal of this course is NOT to teach simple mathematical computations but to assist you in developing an understanding of mathematics. As a future teacher you must be able to explain mathematics to your students, not just teach rote manipulations of numbers and symbols. You should know and understand more mathematics than what you teach.*

Supplemental Assignments: 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 assignments from the Activities book and Supplemental Assignments which will often have to be completed as homework. Selected papers will be turned in for a grade. If you work on these assignments in a group, one paper should be handed in for the entire group, with all names clearly marked. The total number of assignments that are completed and turned in (punctually) by the student will be reflected in the supplemental assignments grade. A grade will be taken on select problems from each assignment. **Late work will not be accepted, no matter what the cause.**

Quizzes: Homework and quizzes will be averaged together. Both individual and group quizzes may be given; a daily quiz of some kind will be recorded. 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 average into your homework grade.

Minimum Competency Requirement: There is not a “competency exam” for this course. Instead, due to the important role fractions and decimals play in a child’s mathematical career, this course includes a minimum competency requirement over the material on the first exam. All students in this course **must achieve a grade of 75 or higher on the first exam in order to receive a grade of “C” or higher in the course.** If the mastery level of 75% is not achieved on this exam, a retest will be administered outside of class. If the 75% competency is still not achieved, I will look at the section on the final exam which covers fractions and decimals. If the student achieves a 75% mastery on the section of the final exam that covers the first exam, the student will be considered to have mastered the material. However, each student should think carefully about the pressure that will be added by depending on the final exam.

Attendance: I will be taking roll every day. All students are expected to be present daily. If you miss a class, come see me AFTER class for any missed assignments. Please do not approach me before class, unless it is an emergency, so that we might start ON TIME.

Tests: Tests will be given after a complete chapter or subject area. There will be two or more “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.** 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.

Teaching Assignments: Approximately every week (with the exception of the first week having multiple Projects), I will assign special projects for students to work on outside of class, preferably in groups. These projects will vary in their scope and should be completed neatly and punctually.

Final: Our final is a comprehensive exam which will be given **on Thursday, July 3rd, during class time.** Do not expect a makeup exam for the final exam.

Grading Policy:

<u>Section:</u>	<u>Total:</u>
Homework/Quizzes/Supplements	10%
Teaching Assignments/Projects	15%
Tests (2 or more tests)	50%
Comprehensive Final	25%

Grading Scale:

<u>Class Average:</u>	<u>Assigned Grade:</u>
90 and above	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60 -69	D
Below 60	F

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. Appropriate classroom behavior is required to attend this class. All cell phones and other similar devices must be put on silent during class. Phones are a distraction for me and the other students in the class. All people will be treated with respect and I will not allow talking that will disrupt my lectures. If disruptions occur during class lectures, you will be asked to leave class and will earn a zero on any applicable grades for that class period. Serial disrupters will be asked to withdraw from my class.

Basic Tenets of Common Decency: “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.) This means that rude and/or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

Students who are absent more than 6 times, for whatever reason, are subject to the instructor dropping them from the course. Four absences in this course constitutes missing 1/5 of the course, which is a very large fraction of material for a student to miss. Any student who is close to this number of absences should come to the instructor before they accumulate four absences in the course. I will NOT automatically drop you from the course. Therefore, if you intend to drop the course, you will need to follow the drop procedures of the school. If I

intend to drop you from the course, you will receive an email from me at the address you have given me on my student information sheet.

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, the Dean of Students, and the Committee for Academic Retention in Teacher Education. The above committee and deans have the ability to terminate a student's participation in the teacher education program. They also have the ability to terminate the student's enrollment in the University. 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. **Some forms of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:**

- 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 other such devices. These must be put away during exams and quizzes. HAVING THESE AVAILABLE DURING AN EXAM OR QUIZ WILL CONSTITUTE GROUNDS FOR RECEIVING A ZERO.
- 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.

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 freshman 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 COURSE, ALL STUDENTS AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE POLICIES OF THIS CLASS, AS STATED IN THE SYLLABUS.

Good Luck and WORK HARD!!!

Mission for College of Science, Engineering, and Agriculture: Innovation and Discovery
Mission for the Department of Mathematics: Discovering the Keys to Success