Math 380.001 – Mathematics History
COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2014

Instructor: Stuart Anderson
Office Location: Binnion-321
Office Hours: MW: 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.,
TR: 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Others, by appointment.

If you need to see me, do not hesitate to schedule an appointment. If you are having difficulty in the course, please seek help early. I would be glad to help you any time I am available. Occasionally, I will be out of my office for meetings or other obligations during scheduled office hours. I will try to let you know of these times early or will leave a note of explanation. Otherwise, you are welcome in my office.

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COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook:

MATHEMATICS HISTORY FOR MATH 380, 2014 Edition, by Burton and Anderson. ISBN 9781308255873. The entire text, except for selected parts of Chapters 1 and 13, will be covered. Your reading of the text topics should be at least one day ahead of the related lectures.

Course Description

A survey of the history of mathematics. Attention will be given to the origin, development and importance of mathematical ideas. Prerequisites: Math 301 or consent of Instructor.

Student Learning Outcomes

This course is designed for prospective teachers of 4-8 mathematics. In traditional mathematics courses, one usually learns fully developed mathematical ideas. In mathematics history, information is presented to understand the way mathematical ideas developed. This different approach often yields insights into how the subject can be taught. Additionally, putting any subject in a historical setting tends to make it more interesting. A student who passes this course will demonstrate through writing and solving problems an awareness of how certain mathematical ideas developed and why they are important. The student will have demonstrated problem solving ability that includes but is not limited to number systems,

geometry, and algebra. The student will be able to make connections between topics from the course and applications to teaching mathematics.

GRADING

Tests: There will be three tests. Be careful to invest ample time daily in the course so that you will be prepared for each exam. Tests will count approximately 60% of your final grade.

Homework: Homework will be assigned almost every day. Always try to solve all assigned problems. You can expect the tests to contain problems similar to those assigned as homework. Selected problems will be collected and graded on some days. Also, a quiz will occasionally be given covering the reading assignment for that day. From time to time, there may be an opportunity for you to present problems at the board. The quizzes, homework and board work will count approximately 5 to 10% of your grade.

Final: The final exam will be given on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. The final exam will count at least 30% of your final grade.

Grading Scale:

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

Attendance: It is expected that you will be regular and punctual in attendance. Attendance will be noted daily and may be taken into account in determining your final course grade.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures

No late tests will be given. If you miss a test, the final will be used to replace that score. No late homework will be graded and daily quizzes will not be repeated if missed. However, one of the quiz grades will be dropped to cover an unavoidable absence.

Please make certain that any cell phone in your possession never rings in class and is never used during class; do not use any electronic device (other than a stand-alone scientific calculator) during any test; do not leave class early unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor; do not excuse yourself from class and then return. Failure to comply with these policies can result in a lowering of your grade or expulsion from the course.

Cheating of any kind will result in an F in the course.

It is my hope that no one will want to drop this course. Please keep in mind that the total number of courses dropped for academic reasons during undergraduate studies is limited to six. The last day to drop the course is Thursday, October 30, 2014.

University Specific Procedures

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities
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- Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

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).*

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week 1 – Introductory activities, Sections 1.1 and 1.2.
Week 2 – Sections 1.3, and 2.1-2.6
Week 3 – Sections 2.7-2.12
Week 4 – Sections 2.13-2.18, and 3.1.
Week 5 – Test 1 – September 23, and Sections 3.2-3.6.
Week 6 – Sections 3.7-3.10, and 4.1-4.7.
Week 7 – Sections 4.8-4.12.
Week 8 – Sections 4.13-4.14, and 5.1-5.4.
Week 9 – Section 5.5 and Test 2 – October 23.
Week 10 – Sections 5.6-5.8, and 6.1-6.4.
Week 11 – Sections 6.5-6.7.
Week 12 – Sections 7.1-7.5, and 8.1-8.5.
Week 13 – Section 8.5, and Sections 9.1-9.5.
Week 14 – Test 3 – November 25.

Week 15 – Chapters 10 and 11.
Final Exam – December 9. (Due to the use of a new text, it is likely that substantial revision of the above dates and material will occur as the semester progresses.)