Math 351.001 and 003 - Topics in Mathematics for Elementary Teachers Part 2
COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2015

Instructor: Mrs. Lymeda Singleton, Instructor
Office Location: Binnion 323
Office Hours: Mon - Thur, 2 - 4 pm
Office Phone: 903-886-4944 (no voice mail)
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COURSE INFORMATION


Supplies: notebook paper (8½ X 11 in., wide- or college-ruled, no spiral), pencil, colored pencils (no markers), scissors, tape, stapler, one two-pocket brad folder, HALF-inch 3-ring notebook for project. (All work must be completed in pencil or colored pencil.)

Course Description: Class time will be spent in lecture, demonstrations, group activities, and tests. Announcements, assignments, notes, and other important documents will be posted outside instructor’s office Binnion 323.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students who successfully complete this course should be able to develop / model the concepts taught in the elementary and middle school mathematics classroom: rational numbers, proportional reasoning and percents, measurement, geometry, probability, and statistics.

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 the why of mathematics to your students, not just teach rote manipulations of numbers and symbols. You should know and understand more mathematics than what you teach.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Placement: To be placed in this course, you should have passed Math 350 Topics in Mathematics for Elementary Teachers Part 1 with a C or better.

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 you miss a class, you are still expected to come to the next class period PREPARED. A written copy of assignments is posted outside the instructor’s office door. Assignments will be sent via email when requested. There are no “excused” or “unexcused” absences in this class, although I do appreciate knowing why you missed if you feel you can share that with me. Please put it in writing.
If you represent TAMU-Commerce on an athletic team, band, choir, debate, or other group and must miss class, notify me 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 and less than three tardies per test unit, the student will receive 5 points extra credit on that major exam. If a student has no absences during the entire semester and fewer than 3 tardies, he / she will receive 5 points on the final exam. NOTE: 2 tardies during a test unit count as one absence, resulting in the loss of the extra credit points.

*****As future teachers, each student in this class should understand and appreciate that attendance has a great effect on performance. The state of Texas has a truancy policy for this reason. If a student misses 20% (6 absences) or more of this class, he / she will be considered “truant” and will not receive credit for this course. The highest grade assigned to any student who has been truant without documenting extenuating circumstances will be a D. *****

**GRADING**

**DAILY ACTIVITIES:**
- Activities (“Act” on the assignment sheet) are to be completed through class participation, usually in small groups, or individually. Group size will vary throughout the semester: they may be teacher-determined or student-determined, according to the task. Activities will usually NOT be graded. Answer KEYS will be posted on the instructor’s website.
- Readings (“R” on the assignment sheet) are articles from professional journals and textbook chapters. The readings serve as the connection between or as the elaboration of the classroom activities. Questions related to the readings may appear on quizzes and tests.

**NON-TEST GRADES:** 15%, grade to be determined by points accumulated, approximately 700.
- HOMEWORK (HW) will be due at the beginning of the assigned class period, regardless of attendance. Homework should be completed on an individual basis. There will be a 20% penalty on all late work. Late work is due by the test date for which it pertains.
- GEOMETRY VOCABULARY book (100 points): Detailed instructions will be given at the appropriate time. Completed individually.
- LESSON NOTEBOOK (Individual - 280 points): The purpose of the notebook is to help you, the preservice teacher, to accumulate resources for when you have your own classroom. The project will have several parts including making your own set of manipulatives, finding activities using the manipulatives, finding activities related to the topics we study, evaluating the activities you find for their usefulness in a 5-E model lesson plan. See the additional handout for details.
- QUIZZES: The 10-minute, 10-point quizzes will cover material from the previous week, article reviews and other professional readings.

**3 MAJOR TESTS:** 20% each for a total of 60% of the final average
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. When pictures are drawn, students should be careful that figures are clearly marked and easily understood. Items should NOT need interpretation if full credit is to be given.

TEST # 1: Rational numbers and Proportional Reasoning
TEST # 2: Measurement and Geometry
TEST # 3: Probability and Statistics

Because emergency situations sometimes occur that may affect a student’s performance on an exam or may even prevent a student from attending on a test day, I will replace each student’s LOWEST exam grade with the percentage scored on the final exam’s related section, provided the percentage is higher than the original exam grade. This provision will only be applied to the LOWEST exam, so students should make every effort to be present and well-prepared for each exam.
FINAL EXAM: 25%: The Final Exam will be a comprehensive exam.

**Grading Scale:** A: [90, 100+), B: [80, 90), C: [70, 80), D: [60, 70), F: [0, 60) NOTE: A “C” is necessary to satisfy the degree requirements for education majors.

**COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

**Interaction with Instructor Statement**

For help with assignments, classroom activities, or anything else, please feel free to drop in during my posted office hours. 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 LAB was created to provide tutors to students who need extra help in a math course. 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. – Noon.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

**Course Specific Procedures**

**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.
- **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.**
- **PRESENCE of ELECTRONIC DEVICES during a quiz or test.** If cell phones, texting devices, or music players are IN SIGHT during a quiz or test, the owner will receive a zero on the quiz or test.

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 final exam 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.

**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).

**Classroom Environment: RESPECT**

We are all here to learn. Therefore, to minimize the disruptions and distractions that detract from and interrupt the learning environment, all electronic devices will be turned off or set to silent, all caps and hats will be removed, appropriate dress for future teachers followed, and all people treated with respect. Students who do not abide by this policy will be asked to leave, counted absent, and receive a zero(s) for any daily work.

**COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR**

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<td>Decimal concepts review</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
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<td>MLK Jr Day (holiday)</td>
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<td>Changing forms for rational numbers</td>
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<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
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<td>Irrational and Real numbers, ratios, proportional reasoning</td>
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