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Logistics

- Class Times: Section 11 MWF 1:25-2:15, Roop G10.
- Textbook: *Fundamental Mathematics for Elementary and Middle School Teachers*, Revised Third Edition, Betsy Darken. A Student Solutions Manual is also available and is recommended.
- Laura's Office Hours: MWF 9:00-10:00 and 2:30-3:30 or by appointment, Roop 123.
- Graduate Assistant: Lianne Loizou is the Graduate Assistant for all sections of Math 107. Starting on August 24 she will be available in Roop 329 to provide help for IDLS students. In particular she is available for help preparing for the Basic Skills Test. Her office hours are:
Sunday: 6-9 Monday: 2:15-5:15 and 6-9 Wednesday: 11:30-3:30 Thursday: 11-3 and 5-8
- Free Tutoring: The tutors in the Science and Math Learning Center can help, and it is free to go there! The SMLC is located in Roop 200 and is open during the following hours:
Sunday: 5pm-8pm Monday-Thursday: 10am-8pm Friday: 10am-2pm
- Paid Tutoring: The department also keeps a list of tutors and the courses for which they are willing to tutor. Fees vary. To get the current Tutor List, please see Kim Paladino or Brenda Wilkinson on the third floor of Roop Hall.

Basic Skills Test

- You will have three opportunities to pass the Basic Skills Test (BST). Each test has 20 problems, and you must answer 18 of the problems correctly to pass.
- The purpose of the BST is to determine if you meet the required proficiency level of the basic facts and algorithms of elementary and middle school mathematics. In other words, it tests whether or not you can do the mathematics that you will someday be assigning to your elementary and middle school students.
- The first BST will be **held in class on Wednesday 9/9**. If you miss two or fewer problems, you pass the test and earn 40 points.
- The First Retake of the BST will be **held on Thursday 9/24, on a walk-in basis from 5-8 pm in Roop 129**. If you miss one or two problems, you pass the test and earn 25 points. If you answer all problems correctly, you pass the test and earn 40 points.
- The Second Retake of the BST will be **held on Thursday 10/8, on a walk-in basis from 5-8 pm in Roop 129**. If you miss one or two problems, you pass the test and earn 10 points. If you answer all problems correctly, you pass the test and earn 25 points.
- **If you do not pass the BST by the second retake, you must drop this class and take a grade of W.**
- There is a 10-page Review of Basic Skills in Section B of the Student Solutions Manual, as well as a set of Sample Basic Skills Tests in Section C. I will also hand out practice worksheets and a practice BST on the first day of class.

Assessment Test

- All IDLS majors are required to take a mathematics assessment test at the beginning of Math 107. Your score on the assessment does not affect your grade in this course; its purpose is to ascertain how much you know coming into Math 107.
- The Assessment Test is given in Ashby Computer Lab on a walk-in basis from Wednesday 8/26 through Wednesday 9/9. You must take a copy of the printed instructions and sign in at the lab with Dale Kennedy. Lab hours are as follows:

Mon & Wed: 10am-4pm Tues & Thurs: 9:30am-4pm Friday: 9am-2pm

- Please note that **failure to complete the assessment by Wednesday 9/9 will result in a mandatory and unchangeable grade of incomplete for the course.**

Attendance

- I will not take daily attendance, but there will be opportunities every day to earn points through Daily Quizzes and class participation.
- If you routinely miss class or arrive unprepared to participate, your grade will suffer significantly. Coming to class prepared every day is a good first step to high marks in this class. However, please note that on its own, **attendance is not in itself a guarantee that you will the course.**
- You must bring the current chapter of the book, your Summary Packet, and your Homework Notebook to every class.

Absences

- You do not need to contact me if you miss a regular class period, or if you know that you are going to miss an upcoming regular class period. One or two absences during the semester are to be expected from most students.
- If you do miss class, it is your responsibility to find out about any announcements or assignments from that class **from a classmate**. The exception: if you miss a lot of class due to illness or special circumstances, in which case you should make an appointment to meet with me upon your return.
- **I do not give make-up Daily Quizzes or accept late work of any kind.** Along the same lines **I do not give make-up exams.** Occasionally I will excuse a student from certain assignments or evaluations due to very special circumstances.

Preparing for Class

- You are required to read each day's section of the text before class. Class will consist almost entirely of student discussion and presentation, and therefore it is essential that you come to class prepared for the material of the day.
- To distill the information in the reading you will write a short summary of the section for each day in your Summary Packet. Your summary should essentially be a list of the important points in the section, mathematically and pedagogically.
- After each class you should do the homework and any remaining activities for that section as soon as possible. Seek help from classmates, the Graduate Assistant, the Learning Center, or Laura as soon as possible if you need assistance.

Flow of Class Time

- Each day of class will begin with a very short *Daily Quiz* that will test whether or not you have understood some aspect of the reading.

- We will then continue with a class discussion of the *Summary* for the day in which I will call on individual students to discuss their summaries.
- The bulk of the class hour will be spent working through the *Activities* in the section for that day. You will work in groups and then report your results to the class.
- During the group work discussions, I will also call on individual students to *Present* certain results at the board.
- Participation points will be given for summaries and presentations and will be graded on the following scale (points will be multiplied by 3 for grading scale purposes; see below):

$$x / 0 / 1 / 2 / 3 = \textit{refused / nothing / trying / almost / perfect}$$

Homework Notebooks

- The single biggest factor that can contribute to your grade in this class is doing homework.
- For every section we cover in class, your homework assignment is to do all problems *except* the so-called “Additional Problems.”
- I recommend that you purchase the Student Solutions Manual so that you can verify that you are doing the homework problems correctly.
- All of your homework assignments are to be done in one dedicated spiral-bound notebook. It is possible that there will be a future exam on which notebooks are an allowed resource.
- You are required to bring your notebook to each class, and to any office hour or appointment you make with me. This means that in most circumstances **I will not meet with you unless you have brought your Homework Notebook.**
- At least 80% of every chapter test will consist of problems that are very similar to the ones in the homework or activities.
- Homework is for you, not for me, so I will not be collecting or grading it. However, I will review Homework Notebooks one time at the end of the semester.

Grades

- Your grade will be based primarily on your scores on the following:

Basic Skills Test	10-40 points	×1	= 40	possible points
Daily Quizzes	5 points each	×35	= 175	possible points
Summary Points	0-10 points each	× 3-6	= 60	possible points
Presentation Points	0-10 points each	× 3-6	= 60	possible points
Homework Notebooks	20 points	×1	= 20	possible points
Extra Credit Writeups	10 points each	×2	= 20	possible points
In-Class Exams	100 points each	×4	= 400	possible points
Final Exam	200 points	×1	= 200	possible points

- **I do not grade on a pre-determined scale.** This means that there are no pre-set cutoffs for grades of A, B, C, etc. At the end of the semester I will rank the class according to percentages of total points earned, and then use averages, standard distributions, and other factors to determine where the cutoffs are for the letter grades.

- There are no required percentages of any particular grade for this course. You are not in competition with your classmates; theoretically the entire class could earn the same grade (good or bad). And nobody can “blow the curve,” since there is no curve. It can only help you to help your classmates, so please think of this course as a team effort.
- Please note that since I do not use a pre-determined scale, **it is not possible for you to compute your own grade during the semester.** You will get a midterm grade report in the eighth week of class that will give you an idea of your grade at that point in the class. At certain other points in the semester I may be able to give you a rough estimate of your grade at that time.
- Disclaimers: I reserve the right to determine borderline (plus/minus) grades. Point totals given above are estimates based on expected events in the course. Participation points may vary from my rough estimate given here. At the end of the day you get the grade that you *earn*, not the grade that I “give” you. Don’t worry about your grades, just do your best. If you are still worried, then work harder and make your best even better.
- You may withdraw from the course with a grade of W up until the **university deadline of Thursday 10/24.** For two weeks after that I will, upon request, grant grades of WP or WF until my **firm deadline of Friday 11/6.** I will only grant a WP grade for students whose current average in the course is a C- or higher.

Calculators and Other Beepy Things

- No calculators of any kind will be allowed in this course, including calculator programs in cell phones or watches or other devices. It is my sincere hope that when you become an elementary or middle school teacher that you will seriously limit the use of calculators in your mathematics lessons.
- Please silence your cell phone before class. Even looking at your cell phone could get you removed from an exam, due to the possibilities of cheating by text or SMS or Tweet or status update or whatever new-fangled thing you kids are doing these days.

Honor Code

- I take the JMU Honor Code very seriously, and so should you. All instances of suspected academic dishonesty will be referred to the Honor Board for investigation.
- Some cases of academic dishonesty are partially due to ignorance of the Honor Code. Ignorance of the law does not, however, exempt you from it. Educate yourself so you understand proper academic and ethical boundaries. The JMU Honor Code can be seen online at www.jmu.edu/honor/code.shtml.

Optional Extra Credit Opportunities

- Attend and hand in a typed 1-page writeup for a Mathematics Department Colloquium talk. Talks are given on selected Mondays from 3:45-4:45, with refreshments at 3:30. The colloquium schedule is at www.math.jmu.edu/~brownet/colloquia. Colloquium writeups are **due in class on the Wednesday following the colloquium.**
- Attend and hand in a typed 1-page writeup for the SUMS Conference on Saturday, October 3. Your attendance must include at least one 1-hour invited talk and two 15-minute student talks; schedule at www.math.jmu.edu/SUMS. SUMS writeups are **due on Monday 10/5 in class.**
- If your schedule does not permit attending colloquiums or SUMS, you may hand in up to two typed 2-page writeups for articles about mathematics or mathematics instruction. You must get clearance for the articles you choose. Clearance must be **requested by Monday 11/16**, and writeups must be **completed by 11/30**, the date of the last math colloquium.
- **No other extra credit will be offered.**

Proposed Schedule for Math 107-11 Fall 2009

Mon 8/24	Logistics	Mon 10/12	3.3 Decimal Form
Wed 8/26	1.1 Sets and Whole Numbers	Wed 10/14	3.4 Equivalent Forms
	<i>First day to take Assessment Test</i>	Thurs 10/15	<i>Midterm Grades</i>
Fri 8/28	1.2 Patterns and Inductive Reasoning	Fri 10/16	3.5 Metric and American Systems

Mon 8/31	1.3 The Integers	Mon 10/19	3.6 Time, Angle, Area, Volume
Tues 9/1	<i>JMU drop/add deadline</i>	Wed 10/21	3.7 Relations and Functions
Wed 9/2	1.4 Rational Numbers	Thurs 10/24	<i>JMU W-deadline</i>
Fri 9/4	1.5 Ratios and Fractions	Fri 10/23	Chapter 3 Review

Mon 9/7	1.6 Ordering Rational Numbers	Mon 10/26	CHAPTER 3 TEST
Wed 9/9	Basic Skills Test in class	Wed 10/28	4.1 Addition and Subtraction
	<i>Last day to take Assessment Test</i>	Fri 10/30	4.2 Signed Numbers
Fri 9/11	1.7 Counting and Measuring	Mon 11/2	4.3 Properties of Addition

Mon 9/14	Chapter 1 Review	Wed 11/4	4.4 Units and Their Role
Wed 9/16	CHAPTER 1 TEST	Fri 11/6	4.5 Intersecting Sets and Endpoints
Fri 9/18	2.1 Logic and Proof	Mon 11/9	4.6 Mental Arithmetic and Estimation

Mon 9/21	2.2 More About Sets and Logic	Wed 11/11	4.7 Decimal Arithmetic
Wed 9/23	2.3 Irrational Numbers	Fri 11/13	4.8 Fractions
Thurs 9/24	Basic Skills First Retest	Mon 11/16	Chapter 4 Review
Fri 9/25	2.4 Imaginary and Complex Numbers	Wed 11/18	CHAPTER 4 TEST

Mon 9/28	2.5 Basic Operations	Fri 11/20	<i>No class</i>
Wed 9/30	2.6 Problem Solving Strategies	Mon 11/23	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
Fri 10/2	Chapter 2 Review	Wed 11/25	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
Sat 10/3	<i>SUMS Conference</i>	Fri 11/27	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>

Mon 10/5	CHAPTER 2 TEST	Mon 11/30	Mystery/Catch-up
Wed 10/7	3.1 Numeration Systems	Wed 12/2	Review/Catch-up
Thurs 10/8	Basic Skills Second Retest	Fri 12/4	Course Evaluations
Fri 10/9	3.2 Numeration System Conversions	Wed 12/9	Final Exam 10:30-12:30
