

Instructor: Alexandria Theakston

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Office Hour: Fridays 12:20-1:20

MLC Hours: Mondays 12:40-1:40 and Wednesdays 1:50-2:50

Math Learning Center: MTH 201 has a separate room in the Math Learning Center.

The MLC schedule is posted at

<http://www.math.msu.edu/CurrentStudents/LearningCenter/Default.aspx>

Texts: • *Elementary Mathematics for Teachers*, by Thomas H. Parker and Scott Baldridge.

• *Primary Mathematics textbooks (U.S. Edition)* — Primary Mathematics 3A, 4A, 5A, and 6A and Workbook 5A. Students using this elementary school curriculum were tested as the best in the world. We will do many problems from these books.

It is hoped that all these books will also be useful after you begin your teaching career.

Goals: This course is a mathematics course focusing on elementary school mathematics. The main goal, of course, is to acquire a solid knowledge of that material. But an elementary school mathematics teacher needs to know much more, including: (i) how to present the material in the simplest, clearest way, (ii) the appropriate sequential order for developing mathematics skills, and (iii) what the students will find difficult and what errors they are likely to make, and (iv) how each topic helps advance the mathematical level of the students.

Expectations: Classes will be primarily lectures, with problem solving individually and in small groups. You are expected to take complete notes, to participate in class activities, and to ask questions about what you do not understand.

Evaluation: There will be three 50-minute Exams each worth 100 pts, several homework based Quizzes worth total of 100 pts (the two lowest will be dropped), a 200-pt uniform comprehensive Final Exam. That's a total of 600 pts for the course. Your total number of points will be converted into a percentage and your grade will be determined by the following grading scale:

| | | | |
|------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| 90 – 100 % | 4.0 | 70 – 74 % | 2.0 |
| 85 – 89 % | 3.5 | 65 – 69 % | 1.5 |
| 80 – 84 % | 3.0 | 60 – 64 % | 1.0 |
| 75 – 79 % | 2.5 | 0 – 59 % | 0.0 |

Note: Once a graded exam leaves the classroom, the score can not be changed.

Attendance: You are expected to attend all meetings of the class. If you must miss a class, plan to get notes for that day from a classmate. Missing an exam without an advance valid excuse presented to the Instructor will result in a score of 0 pts. **No make-ups** are given. Commercial travel schedules are not excuses. There will be no make-up or excused Quizzes.

Any student having another final scheduled during the time of the uniform final exam time or having two other final exams scheduled the day of that exam may take the make-up exam, which will be given the next day. If you qualify for the make-up final exam, in order to take it you must fill out a request in A212 Wells Hall no later than Friday, 5/1 and provide a recent copy of your schedule as documentation. You will not be allowed to take the make-up final without registering. Students taking the make-up final exam **MUST** have a pictured ID.

Miscellaneous: All students are expected to adhere to the University's policy concerning academic integrity. It is covered in the *Spartan Life* booklet under *General Student Regulations*. According to the handbook, "...no student shall claim or submit the work of another as one's own." For more information about this and other scholarship issues, please consult the handbook or visit the following website:
<http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/dishonestyFAQ.html>

Important dates:

Monday – 1/12/09 – Classes Begin

Friday – 1/16/09 – Online open add period for Spring semester ends at 8pm.
– Last day to change to CR/NC.

Monday – 1/19/09 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No classes are held. The University is open.

Monday 1/19/09 to Friday 1/23/09 – Students go to Undergraduate office, A212 Wells Hall for Mathematics enrollment changes. (late adds, drop to lower course, section changes)

Friday – 1/23/09 – Last day to late add a course or change sections within a course. Last day to drop to a lower level course.

Friday – 2/06/09 – End of Tuition Refund

Wednesday – 3/04/09 – Middle of Semester, Last day to drop a course without a grade being reported.

Monday 3/09/09 to Friday 03/13/09 – Spring Break – no classes. The University is open.

Friday – 5/01/09 – Last day of classes.

Wednesday - 5/06/09 – Final Exam, 10:00 am -12:00 noon, location TBA

Exam Schedule:

Exam 1 – Wednesday, 2/4

Exam 2 – Wednesday, 3/18

Exam 3 – Friday, 4/24

Final Exam – Wednesday, May 6, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon