

MATH 116

Contemporary Mathematics & Quantitative Analysis with Pre-Algebra

Nicholls State University, Fall 2012

Instructor: Dr. Brian Heck
Office: 106-E Peltier
Phone: 448-4383
Email: brian.heck@nicholls.edu
Webpages: <http://math.nicholls.edu/heck>
<http://www.facebook.com/bheck2009>

My office hours are 9:30-12:00 MWF and 2:00-3:30 TTH. Please contact me (phone, email, or in person) during these times if you have any questions. If you need assistance at a different time, let me know and we'll work something out.

Prerequisite: MATH ACT subscore of 17 or MATH 003 (with a C or better) or MATH 100/101 (with a D or better).

Course Materials: Our required text is *Mathematics All Around* (4th ed.) by Thomas L. Pirnot (Pearson). You also need to purchase the MyMathLab access code that goes with our text (they come bundled together in the bookstore). Finally, you will need to have (at least) a scientific calculator.

Course Description: (Catalog) Degree credit will be granted in only one of the following courses: MATH 116, MATH 117. *This course can be used to satisfy general education requirements.* Survey of designated items in elementary algebra. Selected topics from ratio, proportion, percent and percentages, modeling with algebraic functions, consumer mathematics, elementary graph theory, applications of mathematics to everyday problem-solving. *Credit in MATH 116 is equivalent to MATH 117.*

MATH 116. 3-3-0. Corequisite: MATH 116L. Concurrent enrollment in the correspondingly named, matching section of MATH 116L is required.

MATH 116L. 2-2-1. Corequisite: MATH 116. Concurrent enrollment in the correspondingly named, matching section of MATH 116 is required. A grade of S will be assigned in MATH 116L if and only if the student earns a minimum grade of D in MATH 116. Otherwise a grade of U is assigned. A student who drops MATH 116L must also drop its corequisite MATH 116.

Course Objectives: The goals of this course are consistent with departmental guidelines

on developmental reform and on technology-assisted teaching. Students will solve various problems algebraically, graphically, and analytically. They will also model and interpret data. MATH 116/116L is a general education mathematics course and thus also strives to meet general education goals set by the University. At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

- Use logic to evaluate and critique proposed arguments.
 - Use basic mathematical ideas about savings, loans, and investments to achieve financial goals.
 - Put into perspective numbers and quantities encountered in the news.
 - Use mathematical models to gain insight into real-world issues.
 - Use graph theory to examine how mathematics solves problems in the business world.
 - Use mathematical inquiry to make conjectures about “real-life” problems.
 - Use modeling and logic to make conclusions about non-deterministic problems.
 - Solve selected pre-algebra problems.
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- **(Calculation)** Perform calculations with integers, fractions (rational numbers), decimals, ratios and percents.
 - **(Application)** Use arithmetic, algebraic, and/or geometric methods to solve problems.
 - **(Data Analysis)** Demonstrate understanding of the terms and symbols used to generated, present, an analyze data.
 - **(Interpretation)** Interpret and evaluate quantitative or symbolic models such as graphs, tables, and units of measurement.
 - **(Communication)** Represent and communicate quantitative or symbolic information.
 - **(Pattern Recognition)** Generate and apply conclusions based on pattern recognition.

Attendance: I will not include attendance as part of your course grade. I do, however, expect you to attend class everyday. You are responsible for all material covered in class.

Grading Structure: You are required to have MyMathLab for this course. It comes bundled with your textbook. It is an online homework system. Many times throughout the semester, I will post an assignment to MyMathLab that you will need to complete for a grade. This will be in addition to the regular homework from the text (that you do not turn in).

How to enroll in a course in MyMathLab:

- (1) Go to Course Compass at <http://www.mymathlab.com>
- (2) Click on **Student** under "Register".
- (3) Read the **Before You Start** instructions, and then click **Next** at the bottom.
- (4) Enter the course ID for this course (**heck35789**) and click on **Find Course**.
- (5) Verify that you have the correct course and select your enrollment option (**Access Code** or **Buy Now**).

The MyMathLab portion of your grade will be worth 15%. Additionally, we will have four in-class exams (worth 100 points each) and a comprehensive final (worth 200 points). Together, these five exams will count for 80% of your course grade. The remaining 5% will be a participation grade; students who complete all required assignments will receive the full amount and those that do not will receive prorated portions. At the conclusion of the semester, you will be assigned a letter grade based on the usual 10% scale (A: 90-100%, B: 80-89%, etc).

Special Note: Students will be administered a COMPASS test at the end of the course for the purpose of course evaluation.

If you know in advance of a scheduled test that you will be absent due to a school-sponsored function, or a scheduled appointment, then you may take a make-up test provided arrangements are made sufficiently in advance with the instructor and documentation of the absence is produced. In order to be eligible to take a make-up for other reasons, such as medical emergencies and illnesses, the student must supply for verification purposes *appropriate documentation and relevant phone numbers* upon the first day returning to class. The instructor will judge what is or is not appropriate.

The approximate schedule for our exams is as follows:

Exam #1... Thursday, September 13, 2012

Exam #2... Thursday, October 4, 2012

Exam #3... Thursday, November 1, 2012

Exam #4... Tuesday, December 4, 2012

*****Final Exam... Tuesday, December 11, 2012...8:00-10:00*****

Instructor Expectations: Come to class prepared to learn. In order to understand what we are doing in class, it will be necessary for you to do problems outside of class, and it would be beneficial to you to read the text prior to our covering the material in class. I also expect you to take responsibility for your achievement (or lack thereof) in this class. I am more than happy to help you succeed, but it will take effort on your part as well. I

firmly believe that if you (1) come to class and pay attention, (2) do your homework, and (3) ask questions when you get confused, you will do very well in this course.

It is assumed that you are attending this university because you have a desire for higher learning. It is therefore expected that you will pay attention, be respectful of your instructor and fellow students, and follow the Code of Student Conduct. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. If you are caught cheating, you will fail this course. Similarly, if you are a disruptive presence in the classroom, you will be dropped from the class.

Special Note: Section Five of the Code of Student Conduct, 'Academic Dishonesty and Disruptive Behavior,' includes a requirement that faculty file a charge complaint statement with their respective dean whenever a student is confronted or disciplined for cheating. The Office of Academic Affairs will maintain these records, and any student confronted and/or disciplined for multiple offenses of academic dishonesty will be brought before the Academic Affairs Integrity Committee for further review and potential sanctions. Please read the Code of Student Conduct for further details regarding this policy."

Important Dates

'W' Day – Wednesday, November 7, 2012

Academic Grievances: The proper procedure for filing grade appeals or grievances related to academic matters is listed in Section 5 of the *Code of Student Conduct* and at the following link:

http://www.nicholls.edu/documents/student_life/code_of_conduct.pdf.

Continued Learning following an Extreme Emergency: In order to make continued learning possible following an extreme emergency

students are responsible for:

- reading regular emergency notifications on the NSU website;
- knowing how to use and access Blackboard (or university designated electronic delivery system);
- being familiar with emergency guidelines;
- evacuating textbooks and other course materials;
- knowing their Blackboard (or designated system) student login and password;
- contacting faculty regarding their intentions for completing the course.

faculty are responsible for:

- their development in the use of the Blackboard (or designated) software;
- having a plan for continuing their courses using only Blackboard and email;

- continuing their course in whatever way suits the completion of the course best, and being creative in the continuation of these courses;
- making adjustments or compensations to a student's progress in special programs with labs, clinical sequences or the like only in the immediate semester following the emergency.

ADA Compliance: If you have a documented disability that requires assistance, you will need to register with the Office of Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Office of Disability Services is located in 158A Shaver Gym. The phone number is (985) 448-4430 (TDD 449-7002).

MyMathLab is compatible with the JAWS 12 screen reader, enabling print-disabled students to read selected multiple-choice and free-response problem types, and interact with them via keyboard controls and math notation input. For low-vision students, MyMathLab works with the ZoomText enlarger. Additional information can be obtained by clicking on the link <http://www.mymathlab.com/product-info>.