Syllabus - MA 150 Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I

Class Time, Days and Location: 2 - 2:50 P.M., MWRF, West Science 3806
Instructor: Jane A. Jamsen (jjamsen@nmu.edu)
Office and Phone: NSF 1113; 227-1603 or 227-2020
Office Hours: As posted and by appointment

Course Prerequisite:
A "c" or better in MA 100 or equivalent recommendation on the math placement exam.

Objectives:
To develop understanding and proficiency in all aspects of the real numbers. Modeling of numbers and operations, problem-solving using various strategies, and the use of manipulatives will be emphasized throughout the course. Group activities will be used to develop and illustrate various mathematical topics.

Requirements:

1. Attendance is required and will be taken daily. If you have more than 3 unexcused absences and your final grade is on the borderline, the absences will negatively affect your grade. In case of illness or other emergency that would result in class absence, you should contact me. You will be responsible for keeping up with assignments.
2. Homework will be assigned daily and must be completed daily to get full benefit of the course. I suggest you keep homework problems and class notes in separate notebooks.
3. There will be graded take-home assignments given periodically, in-class quizzes and groupwork that together will represent 15% of the final grade. If you are absent on any day such an assignment is given or due, call me before you return to class to assure I will accept your work.
4. Generally, there will be a test after each chapter and these tests will represent 65% of the final grade. If you cannot take an exam on exam day, you must notify me before the exam that you will be missing. A valid excuse is absolutely necessary in order to make up an exam.
5. There will be a comprehensive final exam during finals week and this will represent 20% of the final grade.
6. The Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics is holding its annual meeting on campus on Oct. 10-12. I encourage you to take advantage of the student registration fee and attend at least on Friday. I will give an extra credit point assignment related to the conference.

Required Materials:

1. Text: Mathematics for Elementary Teachers. 5th ed., by A.B. Bennett, Jr. and L. Ted Nelson, published by McGraw-Hill.
2. A scientific calculator.

Material to be covered: Chapters 1 through 6

Test Schedule:
The following is a ~ tentative test schedule. Changes in test dates will be discussed in class.
Sept. 6 - Take home, Chap. 1
Sept. 18 - Chap. 2

Oct. 2 - Chap. 3
Oct. 16 - Chap. 4
Oct. 30 - Chap. 5
Nov. 21 - Chap. 6
Exam on additional material covered, Dec. 3
Final Exam - Monday, Dec. 9, 2 P.M.

Grading Scale:

A's 90 and above
B's 80 - 89
C's 70 - 79 D's 60-69
F Below 60

Note 1: I prefer you take advantage of my office time to seek help as needed. However, the Math Tutorial Lab will be open during the day throughout the semester. I will inform you of the Math Lab schedule when I receive it. Tutoring is also available through All Campus Tu toring.

Note 2: If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 1104 University Center (227-1737). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state, and University guidelines.