

**Hours:** As posted and by appointment

**Goal/Purpose of the Course:**

MA 354 is designed for secondary and elementary mathematics education majors and will address the teaching of mathematics at the middle school level, grades 6 - 8. Various methodologies will be explored and the mathematics curriculum will be examined with attention given to the special needs and characteristics of the middle school student. In addition, there will be a great emphasis on the interaction between content and pedagogy and on problem solving and activity-based learning.

**Requirements:**

Attendance is absolutely necessary. Because of the early time of the class and the fact that the class is on Friday, there will be an attendance policy for the class. After checking with some practicing teachers at the middle school and with several of my colleagues, I have developed the following attendance policy.

On your third absence (excused or unexcused), your earned grade for the class will be dropped one letter grade. Every absence after the third one will result in another letter grade deduction. Every third tardy (more than 5 minutes late) will count as an absence. Should you be over ½ hour late (unless you are driving in inclement weather), it will count as an absence. The reason I have to do this is because several folks have indicated they will have trouble making it to class because of extra activities involved with. Now that you know the structure, you can make the appropriate choice.

**Texts:** Access to the NCTM Principles and Standards of School Mathematics

**Grading:** This course is graded on a A-F basis. Your grade will be calculated by taking the ratio of points you have earned to the total possible (in percent form). My grading scale is:

A's - 90 -100%  
B's - 80 - 89  
C's - 70 - 79  
D's - 60-69  
F - below 60 |

**Note:** 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.