Syllabus – MA 150 – Mathematics for Elementary Teachers I

Class Time and Location: 2:00 PM, M W R F , Room: West Science – 3616

Instructor: Roger Contois (rcontois@nmu.edu)
Office & Phone: NSF – Room 1107; (227-1584 or 227-2020)
Home Phone (Evenings) 228-8211
Office Hours: 12:00 – 1:50 M, T, W, R and by appointment.

Prerequisites:

MA 100 passed with C or better, or satisfactory score on the math placement exam.

Objectives:

1. To develop you skill and understanding in basic areas of mathematics including set theory, numeration systems, operations, number theory, and algebra.
2. To develop your ability to think logically and to use mathematics in applications and problem solving.
3. To relate the mathematics you are learning to the mathematics of the elementary school curriculum.

Required Materials:

Text: *A Problem Solving Approach to Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers* by Billstein, Libeskind, & Lott (8th edition); Pearson, Addison-Wesley, 2004

Scientific Calculator (NO Graphing Calculators)

Materials for projects: stapler, scissors, coloring tools, glue or paste.

An email address

Not Required, but highly recommended:

Student Solutions Manual for above required text.

Attendance:

Attendance is required and will be taken daily. In case of an illness or other emergency that would result in class absence, you will be responsible for keeping up with assignments. **Documentation will be required for excused absences.** Use e-mail to let me know. **If you call to explain the absence, it may be considered an 'excused' absence.**

Assignments:

Homework will be assigned daily and must be completed daily to get full benefit of the course. You should **keep homework problems in one notebook and class notes in another**. Show work whenever possible. Answers without work are usually not acceptable and may not receive full or even partial credit. Homework may be collected periodically and counted. Assignments turned in late will receive point deductions.

Tests & Quizzes:

Quizzes will be given often, and not necessarily announced, and there may be group-work problems and graded take-home assignments. Quiz questions will, most often, come directly from homework assignments and your homework notebook is the **ONLY** access you will have to those problems. (**So, do your homework in a notebook separate from your book and class notes!**)

Dates for tests will be announced in class. There will be up to 6 tests given during the semester. Tests will cover reading, homework, and concepts discussed in class and will be worth 100 points. You must take the tests at their scheduled times and **no make-up is possible for any test unless you notify me <u>before test time and you are excused</u>**. A documented excuse upon your return is necessary in order to take a make-up a test. No test scores will be dropped. Grades on quizzes and tests are "**not curved**".

Grading Scale:

A = 93-100%; A- = 90-92%; B+ = 87-89%; B = 83-86%; B- = 80-82%; C+ = 77-79%; C = 73-76%; C- = 70-72%; D+ = 67-69%; D = 63-66%; D- = 60-62% F: < 60%

Notes:

1. Most of the assessment is through written work. However, instructor observations of individuals in the group-work process may play a role in evaluation.
2. Attendance and participation may also play a role in the final grade.
3. **Remember:** By College of Education rules, you need a grade of C or better in MA 150 in order to take MA 151. Also, **College of Education rules allow you to repeat only one mathematics course in the MA 150, MA 151 sequence.**

Material to be covered:

Chapters 1 – 6 of the text.

Final Exam:

Only students who have taken all major exams will be admitted to the final exam.

There will be a comprehensive final exam during the last week of class and will be equivalent to 2 tests or 200 points.

Final exam date: Tuesday, May 1, 2 pm – 3:50 pm

Extra Help:

Please let me know in advance (if possible) when you need help. If I am not in my office during office hours, call me at home at 228-8211 (also check with the math department secretary) and I will come in to meet with you. Tape recording is permitted and study-groups are strongly recommended.

The Math Lab will be open by the second week of the semester. The schedule will be posted on the door of the Math Lab as well as in the Math Office.

I prefer you see me before or after class (or during office hours) if you have questions or concerns about the material or the class in general. If you need to see me at other times, please get in touch with me to make an appointment.

Students with Disabilities:

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock (227-1700; TTY 227-1543). 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.