SPRING 2008 MTH U115 MATHEMATICAL THINKING
COURSE POLICIES & SYLLABUS

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10:30 to 11:35 AM and by Appointment

General course objective: This course focuses on the development of mathematical thinking and its use in a variety of contexts to translate real-world problems into mathematical form and, through analysis, to obtain new information and reach conclusions about the original problems.

GETTING STARTED

- **Get the Required Text:** *Finite Mathematics with Applications* by Lial, Hungerford & Holcomb, Custom Edition (the code for the online homework, MyMathLab, is included).
- **Get a Class Packet:** Pick up a class packet for MTH U115 at Gnomon Copy, 325 Huntington Ave.
- **Register for the Online Exerises:** Use the access code that comes with your copy of the text and the course id, **porter45063**, to register for the online exercises for our section of the course. Weekly assignments and other information about the course will also be available on this website.
- **Get a Calculator:** A calculator to perform matrix operations is required, preferably a TI-83. Cell phones are not allowed during quizzes or tests. There is no sharing of calculators during quizzes or tests.

NECESSARY STEPS TO SUCCESS

- ☐ Do all in-class and all out-of-class Practice Problems
- ☐ Do all online exerices; redo problems as needed to get all exercises correct
- ☐ Take all quizzes
- ☐ Participate in all classes
- ☐ Correct your work, as needed, on all quizzes, the midterm exam, and Practice Problems

COURSE POLICIES

1. Northeastern University is committed to the principles of intellectual honesty and integrity. All members of the Northeastern community are expected to maintain complete honesty in all academic work, presenting only that which is their own work in tests and assignments.
2. There will be up to 12 quizzes during the semester to keep students up to date on the material. The best 5 quizzes will be used to determine your quiz average. **If you miss a quiz, for any reason, there is no make-up.** If the absence is due to a university supported absence (i.e. jury duty, military duty, extended hospitalization, a university supported activity for which you must miss class, a scheduled game in which an athlete is participating or a religious holiday), then let me know as soon as possible and the following quiz will count twice to replace the missing grade. NOTE: This does NOT apply if you miss class due to the flu, a wedding, work, etc. We understand that students may have a valid reason to miss class. This is why we only count the best 5 quizzes to calculate your average.

3. **There will be a one-hour midterm and a two-hour, cumulative, departmental final exam. No student will be granted a request for a special final exam unless it is due to a registrar created conflict. If you miss either of these exams, for any reason other than a university sanctioned absence (see #2), you will receive a grade of zero, as there will be no make-up exams given.**

4. January 22 is the last day to file a final exam conflict form with the Registrar. The final exam schedule will be posted during the first week of classes. Please check that you do not have two exams scheduled at the same time or three exams scheduled for one day. If you have an exam conflict confirmed by the registrar that calls for rescheduling your final exam in this course, please bring the completed registrar form to me so your final exam can be rescheduled; typically on the last day of the exam period—April 25.

5. Homework will be assigned regularly. You can earn an additional quiz grade by completing the majority of exercises in each of the online assignments, in which case your additional quiz grade is your average for the online exercises. Additional problems will also be assigned from the text.

6. To help you in your learning of the course material there will be both in-class and out-of-class Practice Problems which can add up to 2 points to your final average.

7. There is no "extra credit work" or "special project" available to make-up for poor grades at the end of the semester.

8. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of what happens in the classroom, including announcements of possible exam (or quiz) date changes, material that will be covered and changes to the syllabus, which may occur. If classes are cancelled for any reason, scheduled quizzes or exams will be given the following class. Announcements will also be posted on the class page of www.coursecompass.com.

9. Your final average in the course will be determined as follows:
   Quizzes: 35%, Midterm 25%, and Final Exam: 40% plus up to 2 additional points for your work on the Practice Problems. Note that 2 points added to your average is the equivalent to 5.7 additional points to your quiz average, 8 additional points to your grade on the midterm exam, or 5 additional points to your grade on the final exam.
   THERE IS NO SCALING OF QUIZ OR EXAM GRADES IN THIS COURSE.
   You will be graded to the following scale:

Final Avg	Grade
96 - 100	A
92 - 95	A−
89 - 91	B+
86 - 88	B
83 - 85	B−
80 - 82	C+
77 - 79	C
75 - 76	C−
73 - 74	D+
71 - 72	D
69 - 70	D−
0 - 68	F

10. If you have a concern about this course that cannot be resolved by speaking with your instructor then please contact the course coordinator, Joan Campbell, 543 NI, ext. 4882, j.campbell@neu.edu or the Undergraduate Director of the Department of Mathematics, Professor Alexander Martsinkovsky, 471 Lake Hall, ext. 5510, alexmart@neu.edu.

11. You may receive any extra help in this course at the Math Tutoring Center in 540B NI. The tutoring center offers free tutoring on an individual basis. You just need to sign up for an appointment. Please seek help as soon as you experience any difficulty, do not wait until just before an exam.

    The hours for the Tutoring Center in 540B NI
    Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM
    Thursday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM
    Friday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

    The start date for tutoring and confirmation of the above times will be announced in class.

12. Review sessions will be provided for both the midterm and final exams. These sessions will be scheduled outside of class.

13. We encourage students with disabilities, including "invisible" disabilities like chronic diseases or learning disabilities, to discuss with your instructor, after class or during office hours, appropriate accommodations which might be helpful for you. Your disability must be verifiable. The Disabilities Resource Center (20 Dodge Hall, ext. 2675) can provide you with information and other assistance.

SYLLABUS

Section	**Topic**
8.2	Venn Diagrams
8.1	Sets
8.3	Introduction to Probability
8.4	Basic Concepts of Probability
8.5	Conditional Probability and Independent Events
8.6	Bayes Theorem
9.1	Probability Distributions and Expected Value
9.2	Multiplication Principle, Permutations and Combinations
8.3	Applications to Counting
9.4	Binomial Probability
9.5	Markov Chains
	Linear Regression

Important Dates

Monday 1/21	Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday – no classes
Tuesday 1/22	Last day to file a final exam conflict form
Friday 1/25	Last day to drop a Spring class without a"W" grade
Monday 2/18	Presidents' Day – no classes
Thursday 2/21	**TENTATIVE date for midterm exam**
Saturday 3/1	Spring Break begins
Monday 3/10	Spring classes resume
Friday 3/28	Last day to drop a Spring class with a "W" grade
Wednesday 4/16	Last day of classes
Thursday 4/17	Final exams begin for Spring classes
Monday 4/21	Patriots' Day – no classes
Tuesday 4/22	Final exams resume for Spring classes
Friday 4/25	Final exams end for Spring classes
Final exam	TBA