

Course Syllabus: Transition to College Math and Statistics MTH311

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Course Description: This course addresses a variety of topics which will engage students in mathematical decision making. These topics include interpreting data, functions, counting methods, financial decision making, statistical inference, informatics, special representations, and democratic decision making. This course is intended to prepare college-bound students for further study in a non-math field.

Standards: Aligned with the Iowa Common Core Standards. This course will focus on modeling with functions; and inferences and conclusions from data.

Assessments: Students will complete both formative and summative assessments throughout the year. Summative (graded) assessments may include quizzes and tests, or other means of measuring progress. There will also be formative (non-graded) assessments, including homework assignments and learning checks.

Content:

Unit 1: Interpreting Categorical Data	Unit 5: Binomial Distributions and Statistical Inference
Unit 2: Functions Modeling Change	Unit 6: Informatics
Unit 3: Counting Methods	Unit 7: Spatial Visualization and Representations
Unit 4: Mathematics of Financial Decision-Making	Unit 8: Mathematics of Democratic Decision-Making

Instructional Strategies: A variety of strategies will be used, including (but not limited to) group work, individual work, teacher-led activities, and problem-based activities. We will use technology as a tool to help us throughout the year.

Resources:

1. Text: *Transition to College Mathematics and Statistics*, by Hirsch et al, copyright 2016
2. Pens, Pencils and erasers – All of your math work should be done in pencil.
3. A 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper and/or spiral notebook with folder
 - ✓ Taking notes will be necessary throughout the course, so make sure that you always have clean paper.
 - ✓ A binder (maybe even with dividers!) will help to organize handouts, worksheets, and other materials. (See shelf in room for available supplies.)
4. Calculator – TI 83+ or TI 84 graphing calculator will be useful, although a scientific calculator will work for most of the content in the course. Please do not purchase a different model unless you consult with me first – if you already have a different calculator, let me know.
5. Planner - Only your intact planner (with cover and ALL pages) will be accepted for use as a pass.

Academic/Behavioral Expectations:

- What if I miss class?
It is **your responsibility** to get the assignment. I will not track you down to give it to you. Extra worksheets and handouts will be located in the classroom. You will need to copy notes from a classmate. You may also be expected to arrange alternative instructional support as appropriate. If you know you will be absent from class, be sure to get the assignment before you

leave. Approximately **two days** per day(s) missed should be needed to get caught up. See me to arrange an appropriate timeline.

If you miss class on a test/quiz day, you may be expected to take the test/quiz on the day you return to school. If you miss the day before a previously announced test/quiz, you will be expected to take the test/quiz with the rest of your class. (If you missed more than one day see me to arrange a suitable due date.) Missed quizzes and test will be in the Math LRC. You are expected to take the exam within 1 week. If not made up within the allotted time, it will be scored a **zero**. It is YOUR responsibility to make up quizzes and tests.

- What if I am struggling?

If you start to fall behind in this class, the secret is to get help IMMEDIATELY. The longer you wait, the worse things become. You can get help from me before or after school (go to the Math Office, not this room). You can also get help during A and D study sections in C223. You can also learn a lot by working with your fellow classmates. Working together is strongly encouraged.

- General Rules: Show your Mustang PRIDE!

- Attendance is very important. I will be following the school attendance plan for excused, unexcused, and tardies.
- Cheating will not be tolerated! If you are found to be cheating on any work for the class, consequences may include earning a zero, contacting your parents and Assistant Principal or being dropped from the class.
- Water is acceptable in this classroom. NO food or other beverages will be allowed in this classroom.
- Electronic devices are to be used appropriately. Cell phones should not be seen during instruction unless told otherwise.
- You will be expected to behave as the responsible students that you are. Should a problem arise with behavior, attendance, or academics, I may contact your parents and/or pursue assistance from the office.

Grading Plan: Grades are based on the total number of points earned divided by total number possible. Your grade will be based on the following categories:

1. **Tests:** Tests will always be announced in advanced. Tests will be designed to be completed in one class period. No additional time will be given.
2. **Take Home Tests:** You may be given take-home tests at times. Further instructions will be given at that time.
3. **Quizzes:** Quizzes will usually be announced.
4. **Other assignments or projects:** Other assignments or projects will be assigned throughout the year. Information will be given at the time the assignment is made.
5. **Extra Credit:** I may make small amounts of extra credit available at various times during the year. Extra credit will not be available during the last week of each semester. When extra credit is assigned a due date, none will be accepted late.
6. **Semester Exam and/or Project:** This will be worth approximately 15% of your grade.

Grading Scale: Scores are not rounded!

A 93 to 100	B+ 87 to 89.9	C+ 77 to 79.9	D+ 67 to 69.9
A- 90 to 92.9	B 83 to 86.9	C 73 to 76.9	D 63 to 66.9
	B- 80 to 82.9	C- 70 to 72.9	D- 60 to 62.9
			F 0 to 59.9

Communication: PowerSchool will be updated frequently, so you can keep track of your grade. If you have any questions now or in the future, feel free to contact me (email is the best way to get in contact).