

BASIC CONCEPTS OF CONTEMPORARY MATHEMATICS SUMMER I 2009

Math 139 Section 01
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Course Description: The focus of this course is to develop mathematical thinking skills through problem solving and exploration. We will be studying such topics as logic, numbers, geometry, space, uncertainty and decision making.

Prerequisite: An open and curious mind and the willingness to put aside any prejudices or dislikes for mathematics.

Goal: We will experience what mathematics is all about by delving into some beautiful and intriguing issues. There are three basic goals for this course.

- To attain an understanding of some rich mathematical ideas.
- To build skills for analyzing life issues that transcend mathematics.
- To develop a new perspective and outlook on the way you view the world.

Although you will be challenged, the overriding theme of the course is to gain an appreciation for mathematics and to discover the power of mathematical thinking in your everyday life.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students successfully completing Math 139 will have the ability to

- use logic to solve problems.
 - understand different number systems and applications.
 - understand the concept of infinity and its implications in different environs.
 - recognize geometric concepts in the real world.
 - interpret everyday probabilities and statistics.
 - evaluate different decision making methods.
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Course Format: This course will be a lecture/discussion format. Course materials will be available on Blackboard after class.

Exams: There will be exams on Monday June 15th, Monday June 22nd, and Monday June 29th. Each of these exams is worth 100 points. **The final exam will be on Friday, July 10th at 1:30pm.** The final exam is worth 100 points. Missed exams will be made up at the discretion of the instructor and only for excused absences.

Blackboard: Use of Blackboard is recommended for this course. If you need training or are having computer compatibility problems, contact the TEAL Center (located above the bookstore in University Hall).

webpage: <http://www.coastal.edu/blackboard>
phone: 349-2671
email: blackboard@coastal.edu

Textbook: The Heart of Mathematics by Burger and Starbird, 2nd edition.

Attendance Policy: As stated in the 2008-2009 University catalog on page 47, students are expected to attend every class session. Discussions in class will play a large role in the learning process. Missed discussions are impossible to make up and it will be the students responsibility to ensure they understand material covered on days they miss.

Grade Scale: Grades will be assigned according to the following scale...

Points Earned	Grade	Points Earned	Grade
360 to 400	A	280 to 307	C
348 to 359	B+	268 to 279	D+
320 to 347	B	240 to 267	D
308 to 319	C+	0 to 239	F