

MATHEMATICS 10-04
THE ART AND PRACTICE OF MATHEMATICS
FALL 2011
INFORMATION SHEET

General Information about SMC

Student Disability Services

Student disability Services extends reasonable and appropriate accommodations, that take into account the context of the course and its essential elements, for individuals with qualifying disabilities. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Student Disability Services Office at (925) 631-4358 to set up a confidential appointment to discuss accommodation policies, guidelines and available services. Additional information regarding the services available may be found at the following address on the Saint Mary's website: <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/academics/academic-advising-and-achievement/student-disability-services.html>

Class Attendance

Students will be allowed three (four for athletes or members of the Debate Team) days of absence (excused or unexcused) in the semester without penalty. Further absences may affect the final grade and jeopardize the satisfactory completion of a course.

Academic Honesty

Please review the Academic Honor Code in your Student Handbook; it is in effect throughout this course and should illuminate all your actions regarding your academic life.

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Specific Information About this Course

Schedule: MWF 10:20 am-11:20 am

Room:

Textbook: The Nature of Mathematics by Karl J. Smith, 12th edition

Professor: Lidia Luquet

Office: Galileo 101 B, ext 4423

E-mail: lluquet@stmarys-ca.edu

Office Hours: Monday 9:10-10:10

Wednesday, 11:30-12:30

Friday: 2:15-3:30

Catalog Prerequisites: One year each of high school algebra I, high school algebra II, and geometry; English 5 and Collegiate Seminar 20 or 120; all courses with a grade of C- or better.

Course content: The course will present a dual appreciation of mathematics as a flight of the imagination and as a tool in applications. It will bring the excitement of contemporary mathematical thinking to every student; and it will help students think logically and critically about the mathematical information and problems that abound in our society. We will cover topics such as: the history of number systems, the nature of mathematical proof, techniques of problem solving, voting and apportionment, savings plans and elementary cryptography. We will also discuss accessible articles that present some of the great ideas in mathematics.

Learning Outcomes. By the end of this course the student should be able to:

1. Appreciate the beauty of mathematical ideas and know about the lives of intellectuals whose imagination pushed forward the boundaries of mathematical knowledge.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of some applications of mathematics in the real world: politics, art, etc.
3. Use mathematical tools to solve a variety of problems.

4. Think logically and critically about the mathematical information that abounds in our society.
5. Distinguish between valid and invalid arguments. Analyze the logical steps in a model mathematical proof.
6. Discuss and argue about mathematical ideas that appear in literature.
7. Communicate mathematical ideas using appropriate symbols and vocabulary.

Homework: When problems are assigned at the end of a class meeting, it is important for your success in the course that you attempt to do those problems before the following class meeting. This will prepare you for the following lecture.

When homework is collected for grading, be aware of the deadline.

Homework is due, on any given due date, **in class**. Homework handed in after class on the due date will be considered late. Late homework will be collected only one class after due date, **in class**. It will receive half credit. No credit thereafter.

You must hand in *well written, polished* solutions. Clarity of expression is important. Collaboration on most problems with other members of this class is allowed, although solutions should be individually written up and collaborators *should be acknowledged*. It will be made clear when collaboration is not permitted.

Sometimes homework will consist of short essays. They will be handled as problems.

When a reading is assigned you must prepare the reading as for a seminar class, bring two interpretive questions in writing and come ready for a seminar style discussion of the reading.

Test and Grading policy: There will be four midterm examination/projects and a final exam. Suppose a student receives the following grades:

First Midterm	B
Second Midterm	F
Third Midterm	C-
Fourth Midterm	D
Final Exam	C
Homework Grade	B+

Then the two lowest of the midterm grades will be dropped and the final

grade for the course is the average of the four remaining grades, in this case a C+. If you miss a midterm, that is the grade you drop. The Homework Grade cannot be dropped. The Final Exam grade cannot be dropped.

Tips to succeed:

Think-Work-Ask

Ask questions: your questions are important

Trust yourself: you are important

Come by my office to discuss mathematics:

I am waiting for you

Keep a binder for your course work

Be responsible for your absences

Be responsible

Don't fall behind

Form groups and study with your peers

Use the tutoring resources: Student Math Center, Tutorial Services

Maintain an academic attitude!

Write below the names and phone numbers of five students in this class:

Athletes/Debaters: No later than September 2, I would like to receive from each athlete/debater in this class a statement indicating his/her name, the sport/debate team they participate in, and the class dates of the fall term, if any, that they will miss due to team commitments. This statement must be written and signed by the athlete/debater.

L.L.

8/29/11

