

SAMPLE

Math 101 Fundamental Math Concepts II: Spring 2012

Instructor: Jane Q Teacher **Office:** Galileo 1xx-A

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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 10:20-11:20,
Tuesday 1:30-2:30, and by appointment

Texts: Smith, *The Nature of Mathematics*, 11th Edition.

Musser, Trimpe, Maurer, *College Geometry*, 2nd Edition.

(You must not only *own* the textbooks but *read* them as well.)

Prerequisite: A C- or better in high school algebra I, II and geometry and approval of instructor based on the SMC diagnostic test.

Course Content: All St. Mary's students must take a math class to develop their skills of analysis and abstraction and to appreciate ways of the thinking that might be different from their own. In the liberal arts tradition, this goal is not instrumental or vocational—the goals are much broader.

Learning Goals

- To engage students in mathematical thinking and the development of analytical skills.
- For students to gain an appreciation of the breadth, beauty, and applications of mathematics.
- Accurately communicate mathematics, both verbally and in writing.

Course Outline The first half of this course will cover basic techniques with sets and counting, which will naturally prepare us for the study of probability. We will also study statistics, which is in some ways the opposite of probability. The second half of the course will focus on Euclidean geometry, recalling basic calculations, quantities, and proofs.

Student disabilities statement: Reasonable and appropriate accommodations, that take into account the context of the course and its essential elements, for individuals with qualifying disabilities, are extended through the office of Student Disability Services. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Student Disability Services Coordinator at (925) 631-4164 to set up a confidential appointment to discuss accommodation guidelines and available services. Additional information regarding the services available may be found at the following address on the Saint Marys website: www.stmarys-ca.edu/academics/academic-advising-and-achievement/student-disability-services.html

I am committed to helping every student achieve at the highest possible level in this class, and I will strive to respect your individual concerns and challenges in a way that is fair to the rest of the class.

Grading: (Tentative)

Three midterm exams: 15% each

Final Exam: 25%

Class participation 10%

Homework: 10%

Projects and Quizzes: 10%

I reserve the right to adjust these percentages to reflect the number of assignments/projects/quizzes that end up being assigned; but this gives you the idea.

Final Exam: There will be a cumulative, 2-hour final exam on Wednesday, May 19 from 9:00 to 11:00. Do NOT make any plans that will interfere with your ability to be there. It's kind of a big deal.

Midterm Exams: There will be three in-class hour exams approximately every four weeks. I will announce them at least a week in advance.

Attendance: I expect everyone to be in class on time every day. If you absolutely have to miss a class due to emergency or illness, please send me an e-mail, preferably in advance. If you miss class, it will hurt your grade.

Class Participation: Each student will be given a rough grade based on the quality of their preparation, oral contributions, active listening, and support of fellow students. With a small consistent effort, it is very easy to earn at least a B in all four areas, but you must give a consistent effort.

Academic Honesty: The rules set forth in the honor code and student handbook apply to all aspects of this course. In general, any work submitted for credit must result directly from your own understanding, thoughts, and ideas. Presenting the work of others as your own is strictly prohibited. During tests and quizzes, it is your job to avoid even the appearance of impropriety. In the case of homework you may collaborate with others in discussing how a problem may be solved, but any final submitted solutions should be your work alone.

Honesty and Respect: I will strive to be honest and straightforward with you every day, and I expect no less in return. People who make excuses and play games with the truth are not welcome in this class. If you show self-respect and a willingness to work, I will do all that I can to help you succeed. If you disrespect the educational process, I will be unhappy and won't be eager to help you.

Homework: Trying to learn math without doing the homework is like trying to learn golf by watching Tiger Woods on TV. You can learn something about golf, but you won't become a better golfer. Likewise, if you don't do the homework, you won't succeed in the course. Find a study group to brainstorm, but then make sure to write up the problems on your own.

Food & Drinks: You may bring drinks into class if you can consume them silently and without spilling. Please do not eat during class.

Cell phones: During class, I should not be aware that you own a cell phone, pager, blackberry, strawberry, or portable TV. All of your attention (and mine) must be inside the classroom. I take this seriously—please respect this request.

Office Hours: Please stop by to discuss any questions you might have. If you cannot make it to office hours, arrange a separate time to meet with me. If you get to my office and I am not there, please don't leave; I'll be there presently. If you make an appointment to see me and then can't make it, call to tell me you won't be there.

Calculators: I will assume that you have a calculator that can add, subtract, multiply, divide, and take square roots. It is your job to be able to use whatever calculator you have.

Computers: Each of you has a St. Marys email account, which I will use to communicate with you. I will post class information and all assignments on blackboard (<http://blackboard.stmarys-ca.edu>).

Warning: This class will take consistent hard work and preparation on your part. Expect to spend at least two hours working outside of class for every hour that you spend in class. If you start to feel like you're falling behind, IMMEDIATELY make a plan to do something about it. I am happy to offer support and advice on this.

Fundamental Truths about this class:

- I am desperately rooting for each of you to succeed in this course.
- You will *not* earn the grade you want if you do not know the course material.