

Syllabus

MATH 1320: Mathematics for Social Sciences

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Course Instructor



Instructor: C. Mundy-Castle

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Term: Fall term A 2015 (Aug. 31st to Oct. 18th)

Office Hours: Online only

Course Description

This course covers topics of college algebra and geometry including the algebra of sets; linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions; systems of linear equations and inequalities; matrix algebra; probability and the mathematics of finance.

Course Overview

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite Courses: An adequate score on a placement examination or MATH 0311 or MATH 1305.

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge:

- Students should have a knowledge of intermediate algebra (as covered in Math 0311 or Math 1305)
- Students should be comfortable with either Microsoft Windows or Mac OS, and have a familiarity with web browsers and navigating the internet in general. Knowledge of Microsoft Excel is useful.

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Solve linear, quadratic, exponential, and logarithmic functions.
2. Use linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic to model real-world scenarios.
3. Solve systems of linear equations.
4. Use systems of linear equations to model real-world scenarios.
5. Use matrices to solve systems of linear equations.
6. Use models and equations to solve real-world scenarios related to interest, sinking funds and annuities.
7. Use cardinality, combinations, permutations, addition and multiplication principles to count large numbers of outcomes.
8. Define sets and set operations.
9. Calculate probability, including conditional probability, in real-life scenarios.

Course Textbook

- Costenoble, S. and Waner, S. (2014). Finite mathematics and applied calculus. Sixth Edition. Boston, MA: Cengage.

Required Materials

- WebAssign.net subscription
- Scientific Calculator (TI-84 is strongly recommended)
- Microsoft Excel

Course Technology

- WebAssign.net
- TI-83 or TI-84 calculator strongly recommended
- Microsoft Excel
- Moodle Learning Management System
- MATH 1320 UTEP website at <http://www.math.utep.edu/classes/math1320/>

Technology Requirements

- Mozilla Firefox, version 24 or later for Windows, Mac OS X, or Linux
- Internet Explorer, version 10 or later for Windows
- Google Chrome, version 35 or later for Windows or Mac OS X
- Apple Safari, version 6 or later for Mac OS X, iOS 6 or later on iPad

Tech Support

The University of Texas at El Paso offers complete technical information and online help desk support at <http://at.utep.edu/techsupport/>.

Method of Evaluation

Type	Points
Exams (3 @ 17% each)	51%
Daily Activities (assigned readings, practice problems, homework and personal study plan)	24%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage Earned
A	90–100%
B	80–89%
C	70–79%
D	60–69%
F	0–59%

Expectations and Policies

What to Expect from the Instructor

I am teaching this course remotely from Albuquerque, NM, so I will not be available for any face-to-face help. Therefore, all communication with me must be through email, messaging on WebAssign, or by text or phone call to my cell phone. I encourage you to use the Frequently Asked Questions forum on WebAssign, as well as the Ask My Teacher feature whenever you have questions over specific problems. I will do my best to respond to all questions within 24 hours (usually it will be much sooner than that, and very occasionally it may be more than that). I have also provided my personal cell phone number if you have an urgent question or issue. You are welcome to call or text, but please identify yourself as a student in this class if you text. I may not always answer a phone call, but you are welcome to leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

If you do need in-person help, you may visit the Math 1320 course coordinator, Ms. Nada Al-Hanna, in Bell Hall 305. Her office hours are TR 10:30-11:30 and 1:30-2:30. She also teaches an online section of this course, so she should be able to help you with any questions you may have. Please only go to her if you need in-person help.

Participation

You will be expected to complete all daily activities, practice exams, and exams according to the schedule. Daily activities are: Assigned Readings, Practice Problems, Homework, and the Personal Study Plan. You will be responsible to access WebAssign to review the lessons in the

e-text, watch all the videos, tutorials, and PowerPoints given in the daily activities, ask questions about the lessons and submit each assignment on time. All daily activities are due on Sunday night at 11:59PM of the week in which they are assigned. Note that during exam weeks (except for the 3rd exam), all practice exams and exams are due on Sunday night along with the daily activities. It is your responsibility to budget your time wisely so that you are prepared for the exams – this means finishing all the daily activities and practice exams **before** taking the exams. This is a 7-week course, so it will move at a much faster pace than the usual 15 week course. This means that in order to be successful, **you should dedicate at least 20 hours per week to complete the weekly assignments.**

Academic Dishonesty Statement

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

- *Cheating* may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports.
- *Plagiarism* occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents another person's words or ideas as his or her own.
- *Collusion* involves unauthorized collaboration with another person or group to commit any academically dishonest act.

Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. You can find more information in the UTEP *Handbook of Operating Procedures*, under the heading "[Alleged Student Scholastic Dishonesty](#)," and in the [Regents' Rules and Regulations](#).

Late Policy

Ideally you should complete all assignments **before** the due dates given on WebAssign. It is understandable that you occasionally may not be able to complete all the assignments on time. Therefore, you may make use of **extensions** on all assignments except exams. On Assigned Readings and Practice assignments (including practice exams), you may receive one extension per assignment, with no penalty, up to one week after the due date. On Homework assignments, you may request extensions on up to 6 assignments without penalty. Any extensions requests after the 6th one will result in a penalty on the extended assignment, according to the following scheme: 7th extension: 5% penalty; 8th extension: 10% penalty; 9th extension: 15% penalty; 10th extension and beyond: 20% penalty.

Once you receive the extension, you will have 3 additional days to complete the assignment.

Note that **there are absolutely no extensions on exams without a valid, documented excuse that details why you could not take the exam during all of the days it was available.** **Technical problems are NOT a valid excuse for missing an exam** (unless they

affect the entire class). This means that you should always try to take your exam with enough time to deal with any potential technical issues.

Library Information

Access the UTEP Library by visiting <http://libraryweb.utep.edu/>.

Effective Electronic Communication

It is important to share a word of caution, so we can become wiser about interpersonal distance learning communications. In an online environment, many of the feelings or impressions that are transmitted via body language in face-to-face communications are lost. Consequently, interpreting emotions and innuendos can be difficult. Only what is written, or drawn, carries the message. Often, excitement can be misinterpreted as anger or insult. We all need to keep this in mind as we communicate.

Words in print may seem harmless, but they can emotionally injure us when working at a distance. Hence, we must be conscious of how we communicate while working at a distance and use good *netiquette*, that is, online communication etiquette. For example, your classmates may not know who is posting a comment, so clearly identify yourself when posting to a discussion board. Furthermore, avoid using all capital letters in electronic communication as all caps come across as shouting.

The standard netiquette for participation in networked discussion requires that all comments focus on the topic at hand, without becoming personalized, and be substantive in nature. In other words, you certainly may disagree with others, but you must do so respectfully. You may express strong beliefs or emotions, but you may not get so carried away that you lose all perspective on the course itself.

You can find more information on netiquette, the etiquette of Internet communication, at www.albion.com/netiquette.

Disability Statement

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit the office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106.

For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

Military Statement

If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Drop Deadlines

The last day to drop the course without a "W" is Friday, September 4th. The last day to drop the course with a "W" is Wednesday, October 7th. Students who decide to drop the course must process a drop form, in person, at the Registrar's Office, by October 7th. Please note that the College of Science will remain aligned with the University and will not approve any drop requests after that date.

Incompletes

All grades of Incomplete must be accompanied by an Incomplete Contract that has been signed by the instructor of record, student, departmental chair, and the dean. Although UTEP will allow a maximum of one year to complete this contract, the College of Science requests it be limited to a month based upon completion data. A grade of Incomplete is only used in extraordinary circumstances confined to a limited event such as a missed exam, project, or lab. If the student has missed a significant amount of work (e.g. multiple assignments or tasks), a grade of Incomplete is not appropriate or warranted.

Tutoring

Online tutorials can be found [here](#). The Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC) offers free tutoring and is located in the campus library. There are several useful features of WebAssign designed to give extra help. There are numerous private tutors available.