



MTH 111 Mathematics as a Human Pursuit Semester 091 (Fall 2009) Course Syllabus

Instructor: Karen E. Donnelly. **Office:** Core 257
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Office Hours:

Monday 2:00 p.m. -- 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday 2:00 p.m. -- 3:00 p.m.

Thursday 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Contact for appointment during other times.

Home page URL: www.saintjoe.edu/~karend

Course Web Page URL: www.saintjoe.edu/~karend/m111

Text: Bennett and Briggs, Using and Understanding Mathematics: A Quantitative Reasoning Approach, Fourth Edition. Addison Wesley.

Course Objectives:

1. To gain an understanding and appreciation of mathematics in ancient and modern culture.
2. To continue to develop mathematical problem-solving skills and to apply these skills to mathematical modeling of real-world problems.
3. To continue to develop the ability to read and communicate mathematics effectively.

Course Outline:

The focus of this course is mathematics in our culture. We will have an interactive, cooperative, hands-on classroom experience. This will include experiments and discussions. Assignments will include writing about mathematics as well as traditional problem assignments. The final student project will be an in-depth investigation of a particular mathematical topic (of the student's choice) as it is applied in our culture.

General topics to be explored (but not necessarily in this order):

1. Problem solving through unit analysis (Chapter 2)
2. Uses and abuses of numbers in the real world (Part of Chapter 3)
3. Statistical Reasoning (Chapter 5 and 6)
4. Probability: Living with the Odds (Chapter 7)
5. Mathematics of Finance (Chapter 4)
6. Mathematical Modeling (Chapters 8 and 9)
7. Mathematics and the Arts (Parts of Chapters 10 and 11)
9. Applications of graph theory to business (Chapter 13)

Tentative Test Schedule:

Test 1: Thursday Sept 24th

Test 2: Thursday October 15th

Test 3: Tuesday November 17th

Test 4: Take Home Due during Final Exam Week (Thurs Dec 17 by 12:00 noon)

Grade Distribution:

Assignments, Quizzes: 40%

Four Tests: 40%

Final Project (Paper, Presentation): 15%

Attendance and Participation: 05%

Grading Scale:

93%-100%	A	90%-92%	A-		
87%-89%	B+	83%-86%	B	80%-82%	B-
77%-79%	C +	73%-76%	C	70%-72%	C-
67%-69%	D+	60%-66%	D		
59% or Below	F				

Expectations and Requirements:

Special Note: If you are a student with a disability, please meet with me immediately to discuss the accommodations you will need during class activity, examinations, and out of class assignments in order to participate fully and demonstrate your abilities.

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1. In the classroom:

a) No electronic devices such as Ipods, laptops, or cell phones may be used during class -- They must be turned off. If this is violated they will be placed on the professor desks at front of class until end. For repeat violations, the student will be asked to leave the classroom.

b) No hats may be worn during class.

c) Be seated and prepared with all materials out and ready at the beginning of class. Make sure that you have reviewed previous class notes and completed any assigned reading prior to class. You must bring your text book and calculator to all classes. The text book should be out ready to reference any pages as asked by the professor during class. To receive the maximum grade on attendance and participation, the student must read assignments **prior** to class, be prepared to ask and respond to questions, and be an actively engaged participant in class.

d) Take good notes and **review notes** on a regular basis.

e) **Attendance is required.** If you must miss class due to illness or other valid excuse (e.g. athletic event) please send me email or telephone with an explanation prior to the class date. Please do not come to class if you have flu-like symptoms. However, you should bring documentation of such (e.g. from health center) when you return to class.

3. Academic Honesty: Plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty on any assignments, tests, or quizzes will not be tolerated. If the instructor finds that a student has engaged in dishonesty, the student may be referred to the Dean of Academic Affairs for appropriate action.

4. Quizzes and Exams: Students are expected to be present for all exams. **No exams or quizzes may be made up** unless the student has contacted the instructor and received permission **prior** to the date of the original exam or quiz. This includes students participating in athletics who must arrange to take the quiz or exam **on or before the scheduled date.**

5. Problem Assignments: Assignments, unless otherwise specified by the instructor, are to be **completed individually.** While students are encouraged to **consult** each other for ideas for assignments, the solutions should be completed individually. Any help one student gives another should be instructional help only. If the instructor feels that a student has not completed an assignment individually, the instructor may question the student on that assignment. The student should be able to explain how he/she worked the problem and should be able to work similar problems. **Late assignments will not be accepted without permission.**

6. Homework Guidelines:

- Write out complete answers **NEATLY and CLEARLY.**
- Number each exercise to the left --Problems should proceed in order from top to bottom.
- You must show your work! **Correct mathematical notation** must be used. Partial credit is given when work is shown even if answer is incorrect. However, correct answers without any work shown will in general be given no credit.
- If the problem is a computation leading to a final answer, **box the answer.**
- Use pencil and eraser -- do not scratch out work.
- **Staple** your pages together before submitting.
- Start homework early and see me for help with problems you don't know how to work! *It is inappropriate to ask how to do a problem in class the day it is due!!!!* My office is Core 257-- See my schedule for office hours or call or send email for an appointment. I am always delighted to help.

7. Getting Help:

Students who do not understand a concept should do the following:

- a) Ask questions in class. (More than likely other students do not understand as well.)
- b) Seek individual help from the instructor. I am more than willing to give you the extra help you may need. Come in during office hours or make an appointment. Tutoring (free) can also be arranged either through me or through counseling services.
- c) Share with me any concerns you may have or any suggestions you have for the class structure that will help you learn more effectively.

The above content and requirements are tentative and subject to change according to time constraints and other factors as determined by the instructor.