

Math 103-03 (8:00 - 9:40 TR 202 Ricker Addition)

Math for Elementary School Teachers

Spring 2008

Instructor: Dr. Lori Koban

Office: Brinkman 204

Phone: 778-7952

E-mail: lori.koban@maine.edu (This is the best way to contact me.)

Webpage: <http://faculty.umf.maine.edu/~kobanl> (Visit this webpage after EVERY class to get homework and class announcements!)

Office Hours:

I will be in my office at the following times: **MWF 12:00 - 1:00** and **TR 10:00 - 11:00**.

Please feel free to make an appointment for another time.

Course Description: This is a mathematics CONTENT course. While we will discuss some teaching methods, our primary focus is mathematical ideas. A common phrase throughout the semester will be DTP (draw the picture). Our emphasis will be understanding the WHYS of mathematics, not just the HOWS of mathematics, and often times “a picture is worth a thousand words.” We will cover most of chapters 1-8 in the text.

Text: Tom Bassarear, *Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers*, 4th edition, Houghton Mifflin, 2008, ISBN-10: 0-618-83320-X.

What to bring to EVERY class:

- A simple scientific calculator (You are not allowed to use the calculator on your cell phone or laptop.)
- The current homework assignment (You do not need your textbook if you have the problems written down.)
- Class notes (I recommend a three-ring binder for this class because I frequently distribute handouts.)

Grades: Your grades will be calculated in the following way:

3 Exams	300 points (100 points each)
Cumulative Final Exam	150 points
Quizzes	100 points
Algorithm project	100 points
3 Group Mini-Projects	60 points (20 points each)

Exams:

- There will be three exams.
- TENTATIVE exam dates are February 14, March 25, and April 29. Changes to these dates will be announced at least one week in advance.
- Taking exams is not optional. Unless you have an excellent reason that is supported by documentation, there are no make-up exams. If you think that you have a reason to miss an exam, then contact me in advance and we will discuss your situation. If you miss an exam, then your score is a 0.

Final: The final exam is on Tuesday, May 13, 8 - 10.

Quizzes:

- There will be a quiz every Thursday that is not part of an exam week. Each quiz is worth 15 points.
- Your seven best quizzes will count towards your quiz grade. (Notice that this gives you five free points.)
- Each quiz may be in-class or take-home. If it is take-home, then it is due at the beginning of the class on Tuesday. If you are not present to receive or turn in a take-home quiz, then your score is a 0.
- With each quiz, you may opt to turn in that week's homework assignment. Depending on the quantity and quality of what you turn in, I will add either 0, 1, 2, or 3 bonus points to your quiz grade.
- There are NO make-up quizzes.

Algorithm Project:

- The algorithm project is tentatively due February 28.

Group Mini-Projects:

- There will be three mini-projects this semester. You will work with a few classmates on a problem and present your solution in class.

Course Grades: You are guaranteed AT LEAST the following grades. I reserve the right to change the scale in favor of the students.

	B+: 87%	C+: 77%	D+: 67%	F: less than 60%
A : 93%	B : 83%	C : 73%	D : 63%	
A- : 90%	B- : 80%	C- : 70%	D- : 60%	

If your grade is borderline (eg. 82%), I may increase your grade (give you a B instead of a B-) if your class attendance, participation, and effort have been exceptional throughout the semester.

Attendance: I expect you to attend every class. Missing even one class is unacceptable, unless you have a very good reason. Please come to class on time. Attendance will be taken at 8:00 sharp. If you skip class, do not come to my office and ask me to discuss what you missed. You must first get notes from a classmate, do the assigned reading, and attempt the homework. Then I will happily answer specific questions during office hours.

Cell Phones: Turn them off before class. The first time your cell phone makes noise in class, you get a warning. For each subsequent offense, I will deduct one letter grade from your next exam grade.

Students Needing Special Accommodation: Equal educational opportunity is offered to students with special needs due to disabilities. Please contact Claire Nelson to find out what accommodations are appropriate.

Academic Honesty: If you cheat, the minimal penalty is a grade of “F” on the pertinent exam (or assignment). The maximal penalty is a grade of “F” in the course AND my recommendation that your cheating be brought to the attention of the Director of Student Judicial Affairs and the Dean of your college.