## MATH 130-03

## Syllabus Spring, 2009

Instructor: Dr. Colin Starr Office Hours: MWF 10:00-11:30

 Office:
 Collins 308
 M 1:30-2:30

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 W 12:30-1:50

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**Required Text:** The Heart of Mathematics, by Burger and Starbird.

Goals: This course gives you an opportunity to see what mathematics is really about and to learn to think mathematically yourself. You will gain an understanding of some of the deep ideas of modern thought, as well.

**Assessment:** Your grade will be computed as follows:

Worksheets: 200 points (20 @ 10 points each)

Homework: 150 points

Midterm Exams: 450 points (3@ 150 points each)

Final Exam: 200 points

Worksheets are collaborative with two or three of your classmates. I will not accept worksheets that do not come from a group effort. Each worksheet is due at the end of class on the day it is assigned.

No one may fly solo; part of this class is working and thinking with others. If you have an excused absence, you must find others with whom you can make up the work. **NOTE:** Absences are only excused for family emergency, documented illness or university-sponsored events. In these cases, your worksheet will be due at the beginning of the next class period. You may only make up worksheets missed for excused absences.

NOTE THAT WE **DO** HAVE CLASS THE THURSDAY BEFORE SPRING BREAK AND THE TUES-DAY AFTER. Plan your travels accordingly; you cannot make up those worksheet unless your absence is excused. I am very unlikely to believe illness or family emergency on either of those days.

Grades must fall into the categories below to earn the corresponding letter grade.

Letter Grade	A	$A^-$	$\mathrm{B}^{+}$	В	B-	$C^{+}$	С	$C^{-}$	$D^+$	D	F
Minimum Percentage	92	89.5	87.5	82	79.5	77.5	72	69.5	67.5	59.5	
Minimum Points	920	895	875	820	795	775	720	695	675	595	

Note that the "minimum points" already accounts for rounding. If you make 874, that is a B and you have **not** "missed by just one point" – you have missed by a point plus rounding. These cutoffs are sharp, and you should not expect any extra boosts. However, if you focus on learning what we study, the grades will take care of themselves. They should be among the least of your worries.

I will not take attendance for a grade, but I will expect you to be here every day. If you must miss, you should let me know in advance.

You will be responsible for regular homework assignments. These will be collected, graded, and returned to you in a reasonable amount of time. We will have limited class time for homework issues, so you will need to come by my office with questions.

Exam I Thursday, February 12 Exam II Thursday, March 12 Exam III Thursday, April 16

The final will be on Monday, May 11 from 8 to 11 AM. You may not make up any missed exam. If an emergency arises, **contact me prior to the exam.** 

**Please note:** Written responses to all questions must be in complete sentences. I expect correct usage of grammar, spelling, and punctuation at all times; your grade will reflect this! I also expect your work to be neatly written.

If you have special needs (e.g., for a documented disability), it is your responsibility to approach me at least a day in advance of the need for accommodation. To receive accommodation, you must be registered

with Disability Services; this office is located in Bishop Health Center in Baxter Hall. (Phone: (503) 370-6471.)

Cheating absolutely will not be tolerated. The minimum penalty for cheating is a 0 on the assignment and a formal notification to the dean. I encourage you to work together on your homework, but your final write-up **must** be your own.

My door is usually open. The office hours above are the times I will definitely be in my office (or nearby), but you are welcome to come by at other times as well. Make sure you come see me whenever you have a question.