MATH 476 – College Geometry
Fall 2006
Syllabus

Instructor:	Dr. Colin Starr	**Office Hours:**	MWF 10:00-11:30
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Required Text: *College Geometry: A Discovery Approach, Second Edition*, by David C. Kay.

Course Description: Geometry is the foundation for our mathematical interpretation of the world. (It has also been described as the user interface for mathematics!) We will be exploring the fundamentals of geometry, beginning with axioms and proceeding from there. We will also be looking at the logical structure of theorems and proofs, and experimenting with different axioms. Our main topics will be Euclidean geometry, coordinate geometry, and some non-Euclidean geometries.

Grading: The following components make up your grade:

1. **Proofs:** In addition to regular homework, I will hand out sheets of theorems to prove. These proofs will be graded with **no** partial credit. That is, a proof must be completely correct to receive credit for it. (This includes grammar, spelling, and punctuation.) Each proof assignment will be due **one** week after it is assigned. You may turn proofs in for grading as soon as they are ready. If one is not correct, I will return it to you the next class period. You may repeat this up to the deadline. Proofs will account for **20%** of your grade. **NOTE:** Proofs are to be turned in using LaTeX. This will help as you revise – you won't need to start from scratch each time. I recommend that you draw figures on a separate sheet of paper so that you do not need to redraw it when you resubmit a proof.

2. **Exams:** There will be **six** midterm exams which will each be worth **10%** of your grade. We will have these every second Friday of the term (essentially). The dates are in the table below.

Exam	Date
1	9/15/06
2	9/29/06
3	10/13/06
4	11/3/06
5	11/17/06
6	12/1/06

   There are a lot of these exams. The intention is to have less material on each exam and to give you more feedback along these lines.

3. **Final**: The final will be worth **20%** of your grade, and it will be comprehensive. It is Monday, December 11 from 2-5 PM.

Note that in addition to the proof assignments, there will be regular homework assignments. **These will not be graded!** I will post solutions for some of the problems, and others have solutions in the back of the book. You are responsible for doing these problems, too **even though they are not graded**.

Contacting Me: My office hours, above, are flexible. Those are the times you can be sure to find me in my office (or at least nearby). I am usually there anyway, and you are welcome to come by for help or to ask me questions even if it is not during my office hours. Also, you are welcome to call me at home until 8:00 p.m. I check my e-mail frequently on weekdays.

We will be doing constructions, as well, so you will need a compass and straightedge. I highly recommend that you have some colored pencils, as well.