Prerequisite: Honors Eligibility, or at least a 3.2 GPA with at least a 19 Math ACT.

Professor: Dr. David K. Neal  COHH 4136  745-6213  david.neal@wku.edu

Office Hrs: MWF 11:40 – 12:35; TR 12:00 – 1:30

Text: Save your money. No text is required. Course notes will be provided in pdf format at http://people.wku.edu/david.neal/109/

Course Description: MATH 109 is a general education mathematics course for non-science majors who do not need any algebra for further coursework. Topics include counting techniques, probability, statistics, sets, and finance.

Honors Information: This section of MATH 109 is designated for Honors credit, which means that you will have the distinct honor of having the one and only Dr. Neal as your professor! So the class will be much more interesting than normal sections and quite possibly will be the most wonderful class you will ever have.*

Gen. Ed. Disclaimer: The General Education goal of this course is to provide students with the ability to understand and apply mathematical skills and concepts. After completing MATH 109, students should be able to use fundamental mathematical reasoning principles; use graphical, symbolic, and numeric methods to solve practical problems; and interpret information presented in tables or graphical displays.

Department Disclaimer: MATH 109 does not prepare students for MATH 116. If your major requires MATH 116, then you are in the wrong course and should drop.

Calculator: The student should be proficient with a scientific calculator, preferably a TI-84, that can evaluate logarithms, exponents, factorials, permutations, and combinations.

Homework: Some routine exercises will be assigned for practice, but these will not be graded. There will be other Honors assignments that are to be turned in for a grade and on which students are expected to do their own work. Plagiarism and allowing plagiarism are not allowed and will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment. A repeat offense will result in the offending students being dismissed from the class. All homework to be turned in should be neat and well-written. Late homework will not be accepted for credit.

Project: One special project is required and will be due towards the end of the semester. The project consists of statistical surveys that each student will conduct and analyze. A complete description of the required work can be downloaded along with the notes.

* This claim is based upon comments of certain previous students. No guarantee of satisfaction is being made. Possible side effects include headache, nausea, vomiting, paranoia, nervous breakdown, and spontaneous combustion.
Attendance Policy

Registration in this course obligates you to be regular and punctual in class attendance. Therefore, every student is expected to attend every class. If you miss a class, then you must provide a legitimate, documented, written excuse upon returning to class in order for the absence to be excused. If you accrue two unexcused absences, then you will automatically receive an F in this course if you do not withdraw on your own.

Please be aware that a note stating that you visited Student Health Services does not guarantee an excused absence unless it specifically states that you had a serious ailment that prevented you from attending class such as a heart attack, stroke, burst appendix, broken femur, seizure, coma, spontaneous combustion, etc.

Tests

There will be five tests that are based on class lectures and distributed study sheets. A practice test with solutions will be provided about a week and a half in advance of each test. The tests will be closed-book with no formula sheets allowed.

Test Dates


Test 4: Mon Nov 15   Test 5: Fri Dec 10

On test days, the classroom is a testing zone. Do not bring any open notes into the classroom. If you do so, then you will be asked to leave and you will not be given a test. Do not at any time look at or use your cell phone in the classroom. If you do so, then you will be asked to leave and your test will not be graded.

Make-Up Policy

Students are expected to take all tests in class on the days that they are scheduled. No rescheduling will occur. All requests for taking tests at other times will be denied. Your desire to attend another event will not be cause for me to give you a make-up because this class takes priority over all other events scheduled at this time including travel to or from other activities. If you desire to attend another event, then you should cancel, re-schedule, or request to be excused from that event so that you can take your scheduled exam.

Make-ups exams will be given only to students who miss due to a documented physical ailment, such as those described in the Attendance Policy, or due to some other documented calamity such as an earthquake, tornado, abduction by Aliens, being stranded on a desert island after a three-hour tour, etc. But the make-up will have to be scheduled at my convenience due to the time required for me to draft a new exam and due to the block of time required of me to proctor a make-up.
Grading Policy

In order to receive a passing grade for this class, you must demonstrate that you have learned the material and that you have learned it well. The grades will be weighted as follows:

Various Assignments: 10%  Project: 15%  Five Tests: 15% each

Grades will be determined as follows:

A: Excellent Work  B: Very Good Work  C: Good Work  F: Not So Good

Typically, excellent is at least a 95% average, very good is at least an 87.5%, and good is at least an 80% average. Any curve will be reserved solely for students who have zero unexcused absences.

Withdrawal Date

October 20, 2010 is the last day to withdraw from the course with a grade of W or to change enrollment from credit to audit.

Mathematics Tutor Lab

For free extra help in the class, tutors are available in the Math Lab in COHH and in the Student Learning Center. Please check at these facilities for the specific times and availability of tutors.

Disability Services

Students with disabilities who require accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids or services for this course must contact the Office for Student Disability Services in DUC A-200. The OFSDS telephone number is 745-5004 (or 745-3030 TTY). Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services.

Departmental Disclaimer

Credit for a course in which a grade of "F" has been received can be earned only by repeating the course in residence unless prior approval is given by the head of the department in which the course was taken.

Please feel free to see me if you ever need any other help with the class or if you’d like to discuss any other matter. Good luck in the course!