

**Prerequisite** A score of at least 19 on the Math ACT.

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

**Office Hrs** MWF 10:45 – 11:30; M F 12:30 – 1:00  
TR 10:30 – 11:00; or by appointment.

**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 *university-level* 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 consumer math.

This is *not* a remedial course. It is not the purpose of this course to teach you arithmetic skills, nor is it the purpose of this course to teach you what you may someday teach to elementary school children.

However the course is recommended for students majoring in elementary education in order to provide a uniform environment for students who appreciate and respect teaching and learning.

**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.

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

Note: You may be asked to clear the memory before using a graphing calculator on an exam.

**Assignments** Some routine exercises will be assigned for practice, but these will not be graded. There will be other assignments that may be in-class, take-home, or quizzes that will be graded. On these assignments, students are expected to do their own work unless it is specified that a partner will be allowed. 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.

## **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 condition that prevented you from attending class such as a heart attack, stroke, burst appendix, broken femur, seizure, coma, childbirth, etc.

## **Tests**

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

## **Tentative Test Dates**

**Test 1:** Fri Feb 10    **Test 2:** Fri Mar 2    **Test 3:** Wed Mar 28

**Test 4:** Mon Apr 16    **Test 5:** Fri May 4

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 when they are scheduled. I am unable to accommodate requests to re-schedule exams for students who miss class to go do other activities. But if you must miss an exam due to a documented medical cause or tragedy, such as those described in the attendance policy, then I may consider giving you 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: 15%**      **Five Tests: 17% each**

Grades will be determined as follows:

**A:** Excellent Work    **B:** Good Work    **C:** Acceptable Work    **F:** Not So Good

“Excellent” means that all of your work is excellent, not just some of your work or most of your work. You can demonstrate excellence by maintaining at least a 95% average throughout the course, by never doing poorly on an exam, and by attending each class. You should be aware that 90% is not necessarily excellent. For example, you may score 100% and 80% on two exams, which would give you a 90% average. But these scores show that you were excellent on part the material, but only satisfactory on the rest of the material, which does not warrant an A.

Similarly, “good work” would be demonstrated with at least an 87.5% average and never doing poorly on an exam, and “acceptable work” would be demonstrated with at least an 80% average and not doing poorly on more than one exam. In each case, “doing poorly” would be scoring below 70%.

Any curves or adjustments to this grading policy will be reserved for students who have *zero* unexcused absences.

### **Withdrawal Date**

March 16, 2012 is the *last* day to withdraw from the course with a grade of W or to change enrollment from credit to audit. But you may withdraw from the class any time you like before this date.

### **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!