

MAT 131 – NUMBER SYSTEMS OF ARITHMETIC

Syllabus – Fall, 2008

ACADEMIC NEEDS:

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act and requires accommodation, the student should contact the Richard Houston, the ADA Coordinator (phone 846-4690) for information on appropriate policies and procedures.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Being in class for the entire period every day is directly related to doing well in mathematics. For classes that meet three days a week, students are allowed a maximum of six (6) absences, excused and unexcused. A student who has more than six absences automatically earns a grade of “F” in this course. Absences will begin to accrue the first official day that this class meets, regardless of when you actually enroll in the class. Perfect attendance will be rewarded at the end of the semester. Two points will be added to your final semester average if you have no absences, excused or unexcused, and one point will be added if you have only one absence, excused or unexcused. If a student is tardy for class, it is the student’s responsibility to see that the absence is changed to a tardy on the day that the tardy occurs. Three tardies will count as one absence.

CONTENT:

Sets and operations using sets, whole numbers (operations and properties), number theory, fractions, decimals and percents

COURSE DESIGNATION:

This course examines the structure and properties of the number systems of arithmetic and is primarily designed for prospective or in-service teachers. Prerequisite: MAT103 or MAT104

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

All cellular phones, pagers, and other electronic equipment should be turned off and put away during the class period. Use of any electronic equipment not approved of by your instructor during a test will be considered cheating and appropriate action will be taken.

GRADES:

Every student must take and pass a rational numbers test with no less than a grade of 70% before the break for the current semester. Each student may take the examination at most three times during the semester. If a student does not pass the examination on the third attempt or by the break the student will receive a “F” in the course. The first examination will be in class; whereas, the second two examinations, if needed, will be taken out of class at a time agreed upon by both the student and instructor.

The cumulative point total for the tests, homework, and the final examination is 600 points (360 tests, 90 homework, and 150 final exam). The following point scale will be used to determine your final grade:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points Necessary for Grade</u>	<u>Percent Necessary for Grade</u>
A	600 - 560	100 - 94
B	559 - 500	93 - 84
C	499 - 440	83 - 74
D	439 - 390	73 - 65
F	389 - 0	64 - 0

HOMEWORK/QUIZZES:

Practice problems will be assigned for each section of material covered in the book. Student questions about these problems may be discussed in class or during office hours. Other problems will be assigned, collected and graded. Quizzes may be unannounced. The graded homework assignments and quizzes will count for a total of 90 points. Because communication is an essential part of everyday life, assignments involving writing will be made and graded. The two lowest homework/quiz grades may be dropped.

HONESTY:

Cheating and plagiarism are not tolerated. If it is established that a violation has occurred, the instructor may determine the penalty, or he/she may report the offense to the department chair and dean of the school. The usual penalty involves a grade of zero on the test, examination or paper in question.

IMPORTANT DATES:

August 26 Registration Closes
 September 16 Last day to change from credit/audit or to drop a course without W/F
 October 15 Last day to take the rational numbers test
 November 10 Last day to drop a course with W/F
 December 8 Comprehensive Final Exam starts at 3 p.m.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lectures, small group work, and discussions

OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this course the student should be able to solve problems using Polya's step procedure, design and recognize patterns in problems, articulate the reasoning used to solve problems as well as the solutions to problems. With respect to number systems, the student will understand various numeration systems and the operations on whole numbers, decimals and fractions. The student will further investigate the nature of numbers and sets.

OFFICE HOURS:

Come to my office for help during scheduled office hours. No appointment is necessary. It is extremely important that you understand the day's material and complete the homework assignments from each class meeting before we meet another class. If your class and/or work schedule conflicts with the office hours, please feel free to make an appointment for a time not listed.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30-9:00		7:00 - 9:00		8:30-9:00
3:15-5:15*		1:00-2:00*		
5:15-6:15	4:45-7:45*			*math lab W260

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES (DR. H):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-noon	7:00-4:00	9:00-noon	7:00-4:00	9:00-noon
1:00-3:15		2:00-3:15		

TEACHER:

Dr. Leslie Horton

Email: lhorton@deltastate.edu

Walters 270-D

Office Phone: 846-4512

TESTS:

There will be three (3) major tests during the semester. Each test will count 120 points. The test questions will be similar to the examples in the book and the homework problems. Tests will cover material from the lectures, homework and textbook. The final examination is comprehensive. Any person who must miss a scheduled test due to an official university function should take the exam at a time BEFORE the assigned test time. Official documentation must be provided. Students must show all work for each test question and arrive at a correct answer.

TEXT:

Mathematics for Elementary Teachers, 8th Edition, Musser, Burger and Peterson, Wiley, 2007.

WITHDRAWAL:

Students who remain in the course after September 16 and who elect to drop the course will receive a grade of W if passing, or F if failing, the course at the time of the drop. The withdrawal process is not complete until the drop slip has been signed by all parties and the completed form has been turned in to the Registrar's office.