MAT 103 - COURSE SYLLABUS

Quantitative Reasoning
Spring 2010

Tuesday, Thursday 10:50 - 12:05
Walters 282

COURSE DESIGNATION
MAT 103. Quantitative Reasoning. Numerical, visual, verbal, and symbolic aspects of quantitative reasoning with emphasis on interpretation of quantitative information in real world problems. This course does not satisfy the math general education requirement for business majors.
(3 hrs. credit) Prerequisites: 2 years of high school algebra or the equivalent.

TEXT

This is a custom textbook from Thomson Custom Solutions Company. It is bound especially for Delta State University. It is comprised of chapters taken from The Mathematical Palette. (ISBN 0-534-40365-4)

INSTRUCTOR
Mack Smith Walters 270G msmith@deltastate.edu Office Phone: 846-4517

COURSE OBJECTIVES
This course seeks to develop in the student a competency in problem solving and analysis which will be helpful in personal decision-making, in evaluating concerns in the community, city, and nation, and in setting and achieving career goals.

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Define key terms related to sets, Venn diagrams, algebraic models, probability statistics and finance.
2. Use Venn diagrams to solve problems related to surveys and probabilities.
3. Use counting techniques as methods of problem solving.
4. Calculate and interpret probabilities, including probabilities from frequency tables, pie charts, and probability distributions.
5. Compute and interpret statistics pertaining to data sets.
6. Gather, organize, describe, and analyze data to make and support decisions.
7. Communicate results using the language of probability and statistics.
8. Develop and apply sampling procedures to political surveys, manufacturing quality control, and the life sciences.
9. Solve personal finance problems related to savings and interest, taxes, discounts, credit, and other purchases, such as homes and automobiles.
10. Apply a variety of problem-solving techniques to real-world problems.

GRADING AND EVALUATION
Homework will be assigned on a regular basis and will be collected and graded at the discretion of the instructor. Announced and unannounced quizzes will be given on a daily basis throughout the semester. No credit will be given for answers only unless stated prior to the individual assignment. Four scheduled tests will be given during the semester. Your homework and daily quiz average will count as a fifth test. These grades will comprise 75% of your final grade. A comprehensive final examination will comprise the other 25% of your grade. There will be at least one question on each test that requires a written explanation of a concept. Evaluation of the answer to this question will be based on mathematical content, spelling, grammar and sentence construction. You may use your calculator on all in-class work, homework and tests.

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. If it is established that a violation has occurred, the instructor may determine the penalty, or 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.

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale:
A (90 – 100)  B (80 – 89)  C (70 – 79)  D (60 – 69)  F (Below 60)

There will be No Extra Credit or “make-up” work to improve your grade.
CLASS ATTENDANCE
Prompt and regular attendance is necessary for success in this course. To receive credit in this course, you must attend a minimum number of the class meetings. Classes meeting two times per week will be allowed a total of 7 absences (excused and unexcused). If you exceed the allowable number of absences, a grade of “F” will be assigned as the final grade in the course. To be counted present, you must arrive on time for the class and remain in class the entire time. When a student is tardy for class, it is the student’s responsibility to request that the instructor change the recorded absence to a tardy. This must be done on the day the tardy occurs. A maximum of 3 tardies will be allowed without consequences. Each additional tardy will be recorded as an unexcused absence.

CLASSROOM POLICIES AND MAKE-UP TESTS
1. Do NOT go to SLEEP in CLASS!!!
2. Do not use tobacco or eat in the classroom.
3. Do come to class on time and be prepared to begin class at the scheduled time.
4. Do not ask to leave class early. Schedule all appointments at times that do not conflict with class time.
5. Cell Phones and Pagers must be turned off during class. Cell Phones may not be used as calculators.
6. Calculator use is permitted during all classes and tests.
7. Take earphones and listening devices out of your ears upon entering the classroom.
8. Scheduled tests will be announced about a week prior to the actual test dates.
9. Be sure to show all work on tests. No partial credit will be given if the work is not shown in detail. “Answers only” will not be accepted.
10. Come to my office for help during scheduled office hours. No appointment is necessary. It is extremely important that you understand the material and are able to complete the homework assignments for each class prior to the next class. Tutoring is also available in Walters 272.
11. You must expect to practice assigned problems until you understand them. HLS is a good tool for this purpose.
12. Make-up tests will be given only to those students presenting a written excuse, acceptable by the university. Any absence from scheduled work must be covered by a written excuse by the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Student Health Service, or a doctor before the student is allowed to make up that missed work. All make-up work must be completed within three days of returning to class. Any exception to this rule must be arranged before the work is missed.
13. Buy a scientific calculator or graphing calculator early in the semester and learn how to use it. Do not expect me to know how to use your calculator without the manual. Please do not ask to borrow a calculator from me or one of your classmates on test day since rarely do two calculators operate exactly the same. BRING YOUR CALCULATOR TO CLASS EVERY DAY.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT
Delta State University adheres to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need an accommodation under this Act due to a disability, contact Dr. Richard Houston in the Office of Disability Services at 846-4690.

Note: OKRA mail is the official communications link between students and the university.

IMPORTANT DATES
January 21, 2010 is the last day that a course may be added to your schedule; this includes changes from one section to another within the same course. Those who plan to audit this course, must make the change by January 26, 2010. Students who remain in the course after January 26, 2010, and then 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 in not complete until the drop slip has been signed by all designated parties and the completed form has been turned in to the Registrar’s office. The last day to drop a class is April 30, 2010.

The comprehensive Final Examination for this course is scheduled for May 4, 2010 at 3:00 pm. You will be required to take the final exam on the day and time it is given.

OFFICE HOURS

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Other Times by Appointment