

Course Information

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| Semester & Year: Spring, 2020 |
| Course ID & Section #: Math 5, V9190 |
| Instructor's name: Garrett "Todd" Olsen |
| Day/Time or *Online: Online |
| Location or *Online: Online |
| Number of units: 3 |

Instructor Contact Information

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| Office location: Online |
| Office hours: N/A |
| Phone number: 707-476-4229 |
| Email address: Todd-Olsen@redwoods.edu |

Catalog Description

An introduction to mathematics for students not pursuing science, business, and math majors. Surveys selected topics with a focus on history, utility, and artistry to promote appreciation and critical understanding of the foundational importance of mathematics to contemporary society.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate critical thinking skills through analyzing mathematical ideas in the context of contemporary society.
2. Use mathematical skills and techniques when arguing a position on a contemporary issue.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

| Grade Categories and Weights | Letter Grade Assignment |
|--|-------------------------|
| Homework 20% | A: 90 – 100% |
| Discussions 20% | B: 80 – 89% |
| Activities 20% | C: 70 – 79% |
| Quizzes 20% | D: 60 – 69% |
| Final Project 20% | F: Less than 60% |
| <p>Note: These weights are programmed into and calculated by Canvas' gradebook.</p> <p>Note: You can find your percent grade in the course by looking in Canvas' grade book under "Total."</p> | |

Homework: Regular homework will be assigned and due dates will be clearly noted in Canvas. Your homework will be evaluated on accuracy, completeness and neatness.

Homework Format: You will complete the homework assignments using paper and pencil then photograph each page with a smart phone, digital camera, or other electronic device. Your homework assignments must be in .pdf file format. You are responsible for uploading these files, in the correct format into Canvas before the deadline.

File Format: Portable Document Format (PDF) is one of the most versatile and widely utilized file formats in use today. All files submitted for this course must be in pdf format and have a logical, descriptive file name that starts with your last

name (example - OlsenHW1.pdf).

Activities: You will be assigned several activities during the course. You are welcome to collaborate with anyone you wish on these assignments, but the final writeup must be your own work.

Discussions: You are required to participate in all discussions during the semester. Please note that participation in these discussions is part of your grade for this course. Your score for this part of the grade will be based on the quality and frequency of your posts.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be administered via Canvas' "Quizzes" tool. These are open-book quizzes, but you should **prepare as you would for a face-to-face class**. You will have limited time for each quiz and will not have time to search and find answers in the lectures or textbook. The quiz will cover the material covered since the previous quiz. Each quiz will be posted to Canvas, and you may take the quiz anytime during the open period. Once you start the quiz though the clock starts, and you will have a fixed amount of time to complete the quiz. You are expected to follow the class code of conduct on quizzes (see below).

Final Project: You can think of the final project as the capstone of the course. The final project is in two parts, an essay and a presentation. You will have a great deal of flexibility in choosing a topic for your final project. It could be about a famous mathematician. It could also be about a mathematical concept or paradox. The main stipulation is that this project tie back to mathematics in some clearly articulated way.

Submitting Work

All work for this course must be submitted via Canvas. Many assignments in this course require file uploads which as explained in more detail below must be converted to PDF file format. Once converted to PDF format, these files are then uploaded into Canvas via the assignment's portal. This is the only way in which required file uploads will be accepted.

Work submitted as attachments to Canvas messages or email messages will not be opened or downloaded to my computer.

Hard Deadline

All work for this work must be submitted on or before May 15, 2020. After this date all assignments in Canvas are permanently locked.

Contesting a Grade

Students have one week from the time an assignment has been graded to contest the grade with me. If for any reason you are not sure why you earned the grade you received, or if you unclear on the grading policies, please message me via the Canvas messaging system.

Incomplete Grade

As a general rule, I do not give incomplete grades. This does not mean, however, that I will not consider such a grade. Only with *extreme and unpredictable extenuating* circumstances, happening at the very end of the semester will I consider an incomplete grade. College of the Redwoods has strict guidelines with regard to a grade of incomplete (see page 20 of the [catalog](#)). Incompletes are not an option to repair a low grade earned throughout the semester. A student must have already demonstrated significant and successful course progression beyond the last date to drop the course to be considered for an incomplete.

Course Materials

Textbook: [Math in Society](#), Ed. 2.5, David Lippman, available free online.

Required Novel: [A Clockwork Universe](#), Edward Dolnick (ISBN 978-0-06-171951).

Other Materials:

- Calculator: Texas Instruments TI-84 graphing calculator.
- [TI-84 Graph Link Cable](#).
- TI Connect TI-84 Graph Link [Software](#).
- A digital camera, smart phone or other device capable of taking photos that can be converted to PDF format.

Canvas Information

Your commitment will require at least as much time as you dedicate to a traditional class. A typical three credit hour class will require at least 10 hours per week of your time. You will need to carefully watch online lectures and read textbook chapters, participate in online activities and watch online videos, participate in online discussions, complete quizzes, and submit a final project. Conscientiousness, attention to details, and skills in reading and writing are critical for success. You must check in with your Canvas account for this course regularly as this is not a self-paced course and assignments will be added regularly throughout the semester. You should be logging into Canvas at least three or four times each week to see new announcements, discussions that are happening, and new assignments coming that are coming up.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 6 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Computer Skills

Success in online courses depends in part on adequate computer skills. Students must be able to navigate the course website, open and download files, use a word processor and convert files to portable document format (.pdf), take photos of written work and manage photographic file formats, and submit files to the Canvas course website. **The only acceptable file format for all submitted work is PDF.** It is your responsibility to meet the technological demands of the course. Technological support is available via multiple online sources, and I will assist you in finding the most appropriate source for help.

Computer/Technology Requirements

This is not a course that can be successfully completed using a phone or tablet. There is a great deal of writing required, and a computer with a keyboard is a necessity. Also, even though Canvas works with most internet browsers, my experience has been that [Firefox](#) is the most reliable browser to use with Canvas. You also need to have reliable access to the internet. I would recommend broadband services from cable, DSL, or satellite providers.

Students can obtain a free [Office 365 license](#) (includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and more) with a valid CR email.

Technology Requirements (computer, other hardware, and software) - [instructor: identify the computer requirements and any hardware or software necessary for students to succeed in your class.]

Before contacting Technical Support please visit the [Online Support Page](#). For password issues with Canvas, Web Advisor or your mycr.redwoods.edu email, contact its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160 or 800-641-0400 ext. 4160 between 8:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Special accommodations statement

College of the Redwoods complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made. No last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments will be made. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please

see me or contact [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

Student Access

These standards are required by federal regulation. Students will have access to this course that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies.

Student feedback policy

In a face-to-face course, students would be expected to come to each class during the semester. Similarly, you are expected to “come to class” in this course by logging into Canvas and participating in this course. While some online courses are self-paced, this one is not. Each week new assignments open, new discussions (some graded and some not graded) are assigned, and announcements are made. To be engaged, students must take the initiative to log in and participate.

The Canvas message tool is the way to stay in contact with me. Students who do well in this course message me regularly with questions about the reading, homework problems and video lectures. It is important to send detailed questions. The process of writing your question out in detail becomes part of the learning experience in this course and also helps me to focus my explanations.

Often when I write an elaborate explanation to a particular student, one that I believe would benefit the entire class, I will post it as an announcement. Any student may then post a follow up question or comment as a “reply” to the announcement.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

Academic Honesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student’s status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee.

Disruptive Classroom Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor’s directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, he or she may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee.

Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the college catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

This syllabus is not intended to be nor should it be construed as a contract. This syllabus is meant to be a guide and source of information about the course. As your professor, I reserve the right to make changes and adjustments in the syllabus in light of developments in circumstances and unforeseen needs of the class.