



Syllabus for Contemporary Math

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2022

Course ID & Section #: MATH-5-E3686

Instructor's name: Erin Wall

Day/Time of required meetings: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:40am – 1:05pm

Location: Eureka Campus SC 202

Course units: 3

Instructor Contact Information

Office location or *Online: SC 216G

Office hours: By Appointment. Can be done in person or via Zoom

Phone number: (707) 476-4351

Email address: erin-wall@redwoods.edu (Can also message through Canvas) – Best Way to Contact Me

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.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

None

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). 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

If you are taking online classes DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

We will be using contract grading in this class. Below are the options you can select from:

For an A:

- Earn at least 90% of the homework points
- Earn at least 90% of the discussion/class activity points
- Earn a “Meets Standard” on 4 out of the 4 Unit Projects

For an A-: One of the above categories falls in the B range

For a B+: One of the below categories falls in the A range

For a B:

- Earn at least 80% of the homework points
- Earn at least 80% of the discussion/class activity points
- Earn a “Meets Standard” on 3 out of the 4 Unit Projects

For a B-: One of the above categories falls in the C range

For a C+: One of the below categories falls in the B range

For a C:

- Earn at least 70% of the homework points
- Earn at least 70% of the discussion/class activity points
- Earn a “Meets Standard” on 2 out of the 4 Unit Projects

For a D:

- Earn at least 60% of the homework points
- Earn at least 60% of the discussion/class activity points
- Earn a “Meets Standard” on 1 out of the 4 Unit Projects

Anything less than this will earn you an F.

During the first week you will be letting me know the grade you are working towards so, I have a better idea of how to support you during the semester.

Discussions/Class Activities

Your presence and participation in class and/or on the weekly discussions in Canvas is essential for your learning and the success of this class. Your participation informs me, and you, as to whether you are gaining an understanding of the material, as well as, assists in deepening everyone’s understanding of

the material. The discussions/class activities give you a chance to practice and build your capacity to integrate mathematical ideas into your critical thinking within the context of contemporary issues.

Each is worth 5 points and cannot be made up.

Homework

There will be two 10 point homework assignments each week except right before a Unit Project is due. Most of these will be through MyOpenMath linked within Canvas. The homework gives you a chance to practice the mathematical skills and reasoning we have been studying. With the assignments on MyOpenMath you also get to have immediate feedback on how you are doing and be able to practice until you feel comfortable with each type of problem. Homework can be submitted late up until that unit's project is due.

Unit Projects

A Unit Project will be due at the completion of each unit we cover. See the Tentative Calendar below for when these are due. The Unit Projects will evaluate your understanding and ability to apply mathematics to contemporary issues. More information on each of these will be given at the start of each unit. Please reach out to me if something is going on and you are not able to complete a Unit Project on-time, I will try and work with you. These (except for the last one) can be resubmitted once by the end of Week 16 on December 16, 2022.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1	Introductions, Begin Problem Solving Unit: Basic Percent Problems
Week 2	Applications of Percents
Week 3	Dimensional Analysis & Geometry
Week 4	Wrap up Problem Solving Unit (Unit Project Due)
Week 5	Begin Finance Unit: Simple Interest
Week 6	Compound Interest
Week 7	Annuities (Saving)
Week 8	Payout Annuities
Week 9	Loans & (Unit Project Due)
Week 10	Statistics
Week 11	Statistics/Describing Data
Week 12	Describing Data
Week 13	Wrap Up Statistics Unit (Unit Project Due)
	Fall Break, All-College Holidays (Thanksgiving)
Week 14	Begin Art & Fractal Unit (Symmetry & Perspective)
Week 15	Fractals and Music
Week 16	(Unit Project Due) Any Unit Project Resubmittals Due

Student Feedback Policy

- I will maintain frequent contact with the class and will respond to questions within 48 hours, unless announced absence due to illness, etc.
- I will be part of the discussion/activity forums, providing feedback and discussion prompts.
- Students will receive feedback on online homework instantly.
- Written homework and discussion/activity forums are graded within 2 weeks of the due date.

- Projects will typically be graded within 3 weeks of the due date.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2022 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/20/22*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/26/22*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/02/22*
- *Labor Day Holiday (all campuses closed): 09/05/22*
- *Census date: 9/06/22 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 09/16/22*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/27/22*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/22*
- *Fall Break (no classes): 11/21/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Thanksgiving Holiday (all campuses closed): 11/23/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Final examinations: 12/10/22 – 12/16/22*
- *Semester ends: 12/16/22*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 01/06/23*

Academic dishonesty

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. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. 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](#).

Disruptive 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, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. 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](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Canvas Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

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

Password is your 8 digit birth date

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

Canvas Help for students: <https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](#)

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones.

Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [CR Police Department-Public Safety](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

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](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)

- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821