Syllabus for Math 111, Sections A & B  
Fall 2008

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Class website: www.math.washington.edu/~nichifor/111F08.htm
Save this URL – it contains useful course information, and will be updated weekly. Please read the links on this website first before emailing with questions.

Text: *Algebra in Business and Economics* by G.S. Monk, (purchase from Professional Copy ‘N Print, 4200 University Way NE.)

Other Required Materials:
- a clear plastic ruler
- a scientific calculator
- packet of lecture handouts (print this from the course website & bring to lecture)

Course Objectives: In this course, you will study the use of graphs and functions, as they apply to the fields of business and economics. This course will also prepare you for the sequel course in the application of calculus to business and economics, namely Math 112.

Grade Breakdown: Your grade will be made up of the following components:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm I</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm II</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</tbody>
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A conversion table (percentage to grade point) is available on the class website, under “Grading”.

Group Activities (10%): You will participate in group activities during quiz section on most Tuesdays (see the online Schedule). These activities are designed to reinforce or deepen your conceptual understanding of topics in the course or to introduce new topics. You will work on these activities in groups; however, each person will hand in his/her own solutions. These activities are designed to be finished and turned in at the end of the quiz section; but, if a group demonstrates a reasonable effort and is unable to finish, the members of that group may turn in the activity at the next quiz section (but no later).

Homework (10%): Homework will be assigned weekly in lecture and will usually be *collected during Friday’s lecture* (see the Schedule link on the class website). Since the answers to most of the exercises are available to you, it is essential that you *write out clear and complete solutions to all assigned problems*. No credit will be given if you do not show your work, even if the answer is correct. During Thursday’s quiz section, your TA will answer questions about the homework due the next day.

Participation (2%): During Thursday’s quiz sections, you also will attempt problems from previous exams in a test-like situation and then discuss these problems as a class. You will receive points for participating in these discussions (1 for attending, 2 for active participation). After the discussion, your TA will answer questions over the week’s homework assignment.
Exams (78% in total):
To get full credit on an exam problem, you must show all steps in your solution, and you must explicitly use the methods learned in class. It is not enough to write down the final answer, even if it happens to be correct. Work done in your head cannot receive credit, because the grader has no way to verify whether the method you used is correct or not.
You will be allowed to use your calculator, your ruler, and one 8.5×11 sheet of notes for the exams. Other electronic devices will not be allowed (e.g. no cell phones, no laptops, no PDAs). You may not share a calculator or a note sheet with another student on an exam.
Exam dates are as follows (save these dates!):

| Exam I   | Tuesday, October 21 in quiz section |
| Exam II  | Thursday, November 13 in quiz section |
| Final Exam | Saturday, December 6. 5-8pm (location to be announced) |

Tip: Start your sheet of notes early and add items to it as you work on your homework and run across formulas or concepts which you need to remember. Keep it neat and organized!

PLEASE NOTE:
Late activities and homework assignments will not be accepted for any reason. Instead:
1. You are allowed to miss one activity AND one homework assignment without penalty to your grade to account for unexpected problems such as a car breakdown, family issues, minor illness.
2. In case of a serious, unavoidable and documented reason for absence (such as prolonged illness, military duties, or university sponsored athletic events) talk to the professor as soon as you can. You will need to provide official documentation for your missed assignment.

Make-up exams will not be given. If you have miss an exam due to unavoidable, compelling, and well-documented circumstances, contact the professor ASAP with your documentation and your final exam will be weighted more heavily.

Resources:
• The Math 111/112 Study Center (Communications B-006) is open to students in MATH 111. The MSC provides a comfortable place and a supportive atmosphere for students to study, in groups or individually. The MSC will open for the term during the second week of classes. The center is staffed by TAs and instructors. See
  www.math.washington.edu/msc/m111.php
  for more details.
• The Center for Learning and Undergraduate Enrichment (CLUE) holds drop-in tutoring sessions every Sunday through Thursday evening in Mary Gates Hall Commons. See
  depts.washington.edu/clue/
  for more details.
• The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation, contact the Disability Services Office at least ten days in advance at: 206-543-6450/V, 206-543-6452/TTY, 206-685-7264 (FAX), or dso@u.washington.edu.
• The Student Counseling Center holds academic skills workshops on a variety of topics including stress management, test anxiety and time management to help you succeed at the University of Washington. If any of these is an issue for you, check out the schedule of workshops at
  http://depts.washington.edu/counsels/services/workshops/workshops.html
HOW TO DO WELL IN MATH 111:

Doing well in this class requires about 10-15 hrs of individual work each week, outside of the classroom, for most students. No matter how easy or clear things appear (or not) when presented in class, quiz section, MSC, or while working with a friend, you need to be able to explicitly solve problems on your own and in a limited amount of time during the exams. The way to achieve this is to understand the material and methods of the class, to keep a good sheet of notes, and to practice, practice, practice on your own.

It’s very important that you’re disciplined and do the work as soon as it’s assigned, that you ask for help on (and then practice extra) any kind of problem or subject that is not clear.

This class has lots of homework. The homework you do is not an end in itself, but simply a tool to becoming proficient. Your mastery of the material is judged mostly based on your exam performance. However, without being serious about your homework and attendance, you cannot do well in this class. In particular:

- The lecture is intended to introduce the new material and concepts, and to get you started on your study.
- You are then supposed to work through the corresponding worksheet in the textbook by answering each question as directed. The worksheets are designed to guide you slowly through the new material by breaking down the new material into mini-steps, so they can sometimes be tedious. As you work through the worksheets, ask yourself what each question is supposed to teach you. By the way, DO NOT IGNORE THE TEXT in the worksheets, it often states important conclusions and summarizes the work you’ve done!! When you come across an important technique, formula, or concept, add it to your sheet of notes.
- After you’ve completed a worksheet and thought about what you were intended to learn, you should attempt the stand-alone problems at the end of the worksheet. These problems expect you to use the skills you acquired so far in the class to solve more complicated, longer questions. The exam problems will be modeled on these kind of problems, so if you’re having a hard time answering these questions without help, you should review and practice some more.

This is a challenging, but enjoyable class. I hope you do well and have a good time.

THINGS TO DO DURING WEEK 1:

1) Familiarize yourself with the course format and webpage
   - Print and read the syllabus carefully and mark the exam dates
   - Go to the class website and bookmark it. In particular:
     i. Read the FAQs
     ii. Look over the calendar
        I update this website weekly with announcements and occasional lecture notes.

2) Get the required materials (listed on the first page of the syllabus)

3) Homework (start ASAP): Work through and understand well the material in the Prologue and Worksheet 1 by the weekend. Ask about anything that’s not entirely clear by early next week (the MSC should be open for help on Mon-Thu afternoons, starting week 2)