Syllabus for Math 111, Sections A & B
Winter 2012

Instructor: Dr. Alexandra Nichifor (office: Padelford C-326, directions on class website)
E-mail: nichifor@uw.edu (please specify “Math 111”, your name, and section)

Class website: www.math.washington.edu/~nichifor/111W12.htm
Bookmark this site – 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 it from our class website & bring it with you to lecture)

Course Objectives: In this course, you will study the use of graphs and functions, as they relate to the fields of business and economics. This class will also prepare you for a follow-up 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>
</tr>
<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 Thursdays (see the online class 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 in lecture on Friday (but no later).

Homework (10%): Homework will be assigned weekly in lecture and it will be collected during Thursday’s quiz section. Alternatively, you may place your assignment in the correct quiz section folder, in the box outside Dr. Nichifor’s office, no later than 3:30pm on the due day. (Make sure your entire assignment is stapled, labeled, and in the correct folder for your quiz section!)
NOTE: 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 or if the grader cannot read your work -- even if the answer is correct.

Participation (2%): During Tuesday’s quiz sections labeled “Test Prep” on the class schedule, you 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. After the discussion, your TA will answer questions related to that week’s homework assignment.
Exams (78% in total): There will be two midterm exams and a final. On any tests, **to get full credit on a 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 process you used is correct or not. We are not checking if you can guess the correct answer, but if you understand the methods taught in this class. During the exams, you will be allowed to use your calculator, your ruler, and one handwritten & double-sided 8.5x11 sheet of notes. 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. Cheating will not be tolerated.

Exam dates are as follows (save these dates!):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 31 in your quiz section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 21 in your quiz section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Saturday, March 10, 5-7:50pm (room to be announced)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Important:** 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 AND one Test Prep without penalty to your grade to account for unexpected problems such as a car breakdown, family issues, minor illness, etc. I automatically do not count the lowest score towards your average -- you need not contact me or do anything.
2. In case of a **second** absence, **if you have a serious and unavoidable reason** for your absence (such as prolonged illness, military duties, or university sponsored athletic events), talk to me as soon as you can and **provide documentation** and I will excuse your late or missed assignment.

**Make-up midterms will not be given.** If you have miss a midterm due to serious, unavoidable, and documented circumstances, contact me ASAP with your documentation and your final exam will be weighted more heavily to account for the missed midterm.

**Resources:**

- The **Math 111/112 Study Center (Communications, room B-006)** is a comfortable and supportive place 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](http://www.math.washington.edu/msc/m111.php) for operating hours and your TA’s office hours.
- The Center for Learning and Undergraduate Enrichment (CLUE) holds drop-in math tutoring sessions every Sunday through Thursday evening in Mary Gates Hall Commons. See [depts.washington.edu/clue/](http://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: 206-543-8924 (Voice), 206-543-8925 (TTY), 206-616-8379 (FAX), or [uwdss@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwdss@u.washington.edu).
- The Student Counseling Center holds academic skills workshops on a variety of topics such as stress management, test anxiety and time management to help you succeed. If any of these is an issue for you, check out their schedule of workshops at [http://depts.washington.edu/counsels/services/workshops/workshops.html](http://depts.washington.edu/counsels/services/workshops/workshops.html)
HOW TO DO WELL IN MATH 111:

For most students, doing well in this class requires about 10-15 hrs of individual work each week, outside of the classroom. 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 study the material and methods of the class, to keep a good sheet of notes, and to practice, practice, practice lots of problems on your own.

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

This class has lots of homework. The homework you do is not an end in itself, but simply a tool for becoming proficient. Your mastery of the material is judged mostly based on your exam performance. However, without being serious about your homework and your attendance, you will likely not 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 (chapter) in the textbook and answer each question fully, 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. It’s important to 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. Some of them require skills from earlier worksheets. 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 the concepts/methods again, 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.
   Read the syllabus carefully and make a note of the class rules and the exam dates
   Go to the class website and bookmark it (it will be updated weekly). Familiarize yourself with
   all the links on the website. Please read the syllabus and the website before emailing questions.

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, 2, etc. as soon as we discuss them in class. 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), or come to office hours
   this week.