

The Instructor

- Dr. Robb T. Koether
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- My web page: <http://people.hsc.edu/faculty-staff/robbk>

Introduction

- The class meets in Bagby 111 MWF at 10:30.
- The text for the course is Excursions in Modern Mathematics, 9th ed., by Peter Tannenbaum.
- The web page for this course is at <http://people.hsc.edu/faculty-staff/robbk/Math111>. Homework assignments and lecture notes will be posted on this web page, not on Canvas.

Grading

There will be weekly quizzes, three tests, and a final exam. In the final average, these will have the following weights:

Category	Weight
Quiz average	30%
Test average	50%
Final exam	20%

Quizzes

Each Wednesday we will begin class with a 10-minute quiz, beginning September 5. The problems on the quiz will come verbatim from the previous week's assignments (Monday through Friday). If you do all of the homework and understand it, then you should do well on the quizzes. If you do not do the homework or do not understand it, then you will probably not do well on the quizzes.

Tests

You should make every conceivable effort to be present and prepared for an hour test. If you do not feel that you are prepared, you must take the test anyway. The only valid excuses for missing a test are listed below. If you foresee that you must miss a test, then you must make arrangements before the absence to take the test. If you miss a test for a reason that is less than compelling, you will not be allowed to take the test later. If you miss a test, it is essential that you contact me and make arrangements at the earliest possible moment. Failure to follow this policy will invalidate any excuse.

Many of the test questions will be slightly modified from the homework. If you do the homework regularly, then it should be easy to prepare for a test. When you study for a test, do not attempt to do all of your studying in one night. Instead, spread your studying out over several nights. On the night before a test, the most important thing you can do is to get a good night's rest. Do not drink alcohol on the two or three days before a test. If you do, it will affect your ability to concentrate, think logically, and recall facts. In other words, it will make it look as if you didn't study.

The test schedule is as follows:

Test	Date
#1	Fri, Sep 21
#2	Fri, Oct 19
#3	Fri, Nov 16

Policy for Making Up Quizzes and Tests

You will be permitted to make up a test or quiz only if it was missed for a valid reason (see Attendance Policy below). Simply not feeling well is not a sufficient excuse. Make-up quizzes will be given at 4:00 pm of the following class day. Make-up tests will be given at 4:00 pm of the following Monday. Only under extreme circumstances will they be rescheduled.

For quizzes, you will have the option of dropping your two lowest quiz grades *instead of taking any make-up quizzes*. Once you take a make-up quiz, then no quiz grades will be dropped. There is no such option for tests.

The Final Exam

The final exam will be cumulative. It will be given on Thursday, December 13 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm in Bagby 111. Everyone must take the final exam and it will not be rescheduled.

Attendance Policy

Read the Class Attendance policy in the Academic Catalogue. Attendance will be checked at the beginning of each class. If you arrive late, you will be counted absent.

If that happens and you would like to be marked present, see me after class and I will mark you “late,” not “absent.” Otherwise, late arrivals and absences will all count as absences. Each late arrival counts as half an absence. When assigning final grades, attendance (including late arrivals) will be taken into account.

The only valid excuses for missing class are

- An illness which includes confirmation from the Health Center or a doctor
- An approved college activity
- A true emergency
- Any absence excused by the Dean of Students

At the end of the semester, I will take into account your attendance record.

Absences	Action
0 - 2	Grade bonus (1 “part” of a grade)
3 - 4	Neutral (no change in grade)
5 - 6	Grade penalty (1 “part” of a grade)
> 6	Withdrawal

A warning letter will be sent out after the 6 absence.

The last day to drop a course without a grade of WF is Oct 26.

Classroom Etiquette

- Do not make leave the room during the class. If necessary, use the bathroom before coming to class. If you are thirsty, get a drink before class.
- Do not use any electronic devices during class except a laptop, and then only if it is used to follow the lectures.

The Course Content

This course introduces mathematical methods that solve some common and some well known problems that occur in society. These methods do not require any algebraic skills. The methods are entirely computational. However, the methods do depend on following specific procedures very carefully. *Everyone* in this class is capable of mastering this material, although it will require attention to detail and practice.