

MATH 110: FUNCTIONS AND ALGEBRAIC METHODS

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Davis Doherty
Office: Bannan 216
Office Hours: MW 12-1:30, Th 1-3, or by appointment
Office Phone: x2511
Email: dohertyd@seattleu.edu

Text: *Algebra for College Students*, by Mark Dugopolski

Course Web Site: <http://fac-staff.seattleu.edu/dohertyd/web/Math110>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will study functions, and use functions to create simple models of real-world problems. Specifically, we shall focus on linear and quadratic functions, and learn to solve and graph linear and quadratic equations and inequalities. Once we have developed solving and graphing skills, we shall learn how to use technological tools as an alternative approach.

I hope to convey the idea that math is not all about using equations to get the right answers. Rather, it is a language that allows us to frame problems, clearly communicate our methods, and think critically about abstract notions.

My expectation from you is a good-faith effort in the class, regular attendance, and completion of the assigned work. In addition, I hope that you will ask questions – *lots* of questions. You should expect clear communication of the material and its relevance from me; I will trust you to stop me if either is lacking.

Lastly, I'll note that MATH 110 can be used to satisfy the Seattle University Core mathematics requirement.

HOMEWORK

Homework will be assigned *each class day*, or very nearly so. This way, the homework will closely parallel the lectures, and you will be able to figure out quickly where your difficulties lie. The assignments will be fairly short, to make up for their frequency. Assignments given Friday will be slightly longer, and will be turned in to the grader.

QUIZZES

Quizzes will be given close to weekly, on Fridays (except for weeks when midterm exams are scheduled). Some quizzes will be taken in groups, some individually.

EXAMS

There will be two midterm exams, on October 20th and November 17th. The class preceding each midterm will be set aside for review; your responsibility for review days is to come prepared with questions. The final exam date depends on which section you are in; the 3:45pm section has a final exam date of December 6th, from 4–5:50pm. The 1:30pm section has a final exam date of December 7th, from 2–3:50pm.

GRADES

Your grade will be based on the homeworks and exams as follows:

| | |
|-----|------------|
| 10% | Homework |
| 20% | Quizzes |
| 40% | Midterms |
| 30% | Final Exam |

ABSENCES AND LATE HOMEWORK

Homework assignments turned in during the class meeting following the due date will receive partial credit only; assignments turned in later will receive no credit. If you know in advance you will be absent, please contact me to discuss turning in homework or making up a missed quiz. At the end of the quarter I drop your lowest quiz score; if you have an unarranged absence on a quiz day, this will automatically become your dropped quiz.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

| Textbook Sections | Rough Dates |
|-------------------|---|
| 1.1–1.6 | September 20–25 |
| 2.1–2.5 | September 25–29 |
| 3.1–3.5 | October 4–9 |
| 4.1–4.4 | October 9–13 |
| Midterm 1 | October 20 (Review October 18) |
| 5.1–5.8 | October 13–27 |
| 6.1–6.7 | October 27–November 3 |
| 7.1–7.6 | November 3–10 |
| 8.1–8.5 | November 10–20 |
| Midterm 2 | November 17 (Review November 15) |
| 9.1, 9.5, 11.1 | November 27–December 1 |
| Final Exam | December 6 (3:45pm section)/December 7 (1:30 Section) |