



Course title and number	Structure of Math I (MATH 365)
Term	Spring 2016
Meeting times and location	Section 502 meets TR 8:00 – 9:15 AM in BLOC 117 Section 503 meets TR 9:35 – 10:50 AM in BLOC 117 Section 501 meets TR 12:45 – 2:00 PM in BLOC 149

Course Description and Prerequisites

Structure of Mathematics I. (3-0). Credit 3. Informal logic, sets, relations, functions, whole numbers, numeration systems, binary operations, integers, elementary number theory, modular systems, rational numbers and the system of real numbers. Designed primarily for elementary teacher certification. Others must have consent of instructor. Prerequisites: Must have completed University Core Curriculum mathematics requirements with a grade of C or better.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The purpose of taking the MATH 36X series of courses (MATH 365, 366, and 367) is for preservice elementary and middle school teachers to:

- Acquire knowledge of the mathematics topics beyond elementary school mathematics that can aid in developing deeper knowledge of elementary school mathematics;
- Gain experience in using this deeper understanding of the content to answer EC-8 students' math questions (at both a conceptual and procedural level), interpret EC-8 students' possible confusion about the math, and trouble-shoot EC-8 students' possible mistakes;
- Develop the disposition and ability to look at a problem from different points of view;
- See connections between different topics and branches of mathematics;
- Acquire knowledge of where to find potential material for enrichment for more advanced elementary students.

The overall goal of MATH 365 is to provide preservice elementary and middle-school teachers with the mathematical knowledge necessary to provide effective classroom instruction related to numbers and operations. MATH 365 is a mathematics content course for students working toward a teaching certificate that allows them to teach mathematics from Early Childhood through Grade 8. It IS NOT a methods course in which the main focus is on how to TEACH mathematics. It IS a course in which you will be asked to DO AND LEARN mathematics by engaging in logical mathematical thinking about numerical concepts so that you will have a strong content-knowledge base from which you can draw to make appropriate instructional decisions and generate appropriate mathematical questions as a mathematics teacher in elementary or middle school.

Students who participate in this course should improve their ability to:

- Appropriately represent in multiple ways the content related to numbers and operations that they are expected to teach;
- Develop and explain (verbally, pictorially, and in writing) their own mathematical thinking about numbers and operations;
- Use logical reasoning in the context of numbers and operations, including making conjectures and justifying them or providing counterexamples to disprove them; and

- Analyze and evaluate the mathematical reasoning of others.
The development of these broad outcomes will be supported by the accomplishment of more specific outcomes that will be articulated during the course.

During the semester, you will be expected to do homework that has been assigned to promote class discussion. There will be several in-class activities (possibly including technology) that lead to discussions of concepts and language that you will see again on the exams. It is impossible to replicate these experiences outside of the classroom environment; therefore class attendance and participation are extremely important and may be counted toward your daily grade. **Attendance is required and will be taken each class period.**

In addition, you are encouraged to schedule some time to work with other classmates outside of class. The majority of the content of this course focuses on the vocabulary and language of mathematical reasoning. The best way to learn vocabulary and language is to **use** it! In previous semesters, students in this course have found it very helpful to form small study groups, or at least to have a study partner, with which to discuss the ideas and homework problems. Office hours (or times you schedule by appointment) are also available for extra discussion and questions.

Instructor Information

Name	Tamara Carter, Instructional Assistant Professor
Email address	tcarter@tamu.edu (please include your full name and class section)
Office hours	TR 11-12:30 and 2:15 – 3:35; and by appointment
Office location	245A Blocker
Website	www.math.tamu.edu/~tcarter Class material will be posted in eCampus (eCampus.tamu.edu)

Textbook and/or Resource Material

Billstein, R., Libeskind, S., & Lott, J. *A Problem Solving Approach to Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers* (Eleventh Edition). (This textbook will also be used in Math 366.)

Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics(revised)

Available here: <http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/rules/tac/chapter111/index.html>

Texas A&M Student ID

Bring your student ID to all exams. If you have a question about your grade, please come see me in person and bring your ID.

Calculator

A calculator is not required. However, a five-function or scientific calculator is allowed. Programmable calculators (such as TI83/84), cell phones, tablets, and computers are NOT allowed on exams.

Tentative Course Topics and Calendar of Activities

All changes will be announced in class, via email, and/or posted in eCampus. My expectation is that you have read the book sections and completed associated daily assignments before coming to class.

Week 1	Jan 19, 21	Introduction, Section 1.3	
Week 2	Jan 26, 28	Sections 2.1-2.3	
Week 3	Feb 2, 4	Sections 3.1-3.2, Parts of Sections 3.3-3.4	
Week 4	Feb 9, 11	Parts of Sections 3.3-3.4, Section 3.5	
Week 5	Feb 16, 18	Review	Exam 1
Week 6	Feb 23, 25	Sections 8.2-8.4	
Week 7	Mar 1, 3	Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 (Project part A due 3/1)	
Week 8	Mar 8, 10	Sections 5.1, 5.2 (Mid-semester grades due, 10/19)	
	Mar 13-18	Spring Break	
Week 9	Mar 22, 24	Review	Exam 2
Week 10	Mar 29, 31	Sections 6.1, 7.1	
Week 11	Apr 5, 7	Sections 6.2, 6.3, 7.2	
Week 12	Apr 12, 14	Sections 7.3 and 8.1 (Last day to Q drop, 11/20)	
Week 13	Apr 19, 21	Continue. Chr 6 and 7 including 6.4 and 7.4 (Project part B due 4/19)	
Week 14	Apr 26, 28	Continue Chr 6, 7, and review	
Week 15	May 3, 5	Redefined Friday, so our class does not meet	Begin Final exams
Exam 3 (during the final exam period)		Sec. 503, Thursday, May 5, 12:30 – 2:30 pm Sec. 502, Friday, May 6, 1:00 – 3:00 pm Sec. 501, Tuesday, May 10, 8:00 – 10:00 am	

Grading Policy

Activities and Daily Grades	10%
Projects	15%
Three Major Exams (25%) each	75%
Total	100%

Required Averages

A = [90,100%] B = [80,90%) C = [70,80%) D = [60,70%) F = [0,60%)

I reserve the right to lower these cutoffs if I deem that it is appropriate, but you should not expect them to be lowered.

Attendance & Make-up Policy

The University views class attendance as the responsibility of an individual student. Attendance is essential to complete this course successfully. University rules related to excused and unexcused absences and make-ups are located on-line at <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>. Please notify me via email prior to the date of an absence, if possible.

Consistent with Texas A&M Student Rules, in cases where advance notification is not feasible (e.g. accident, or emergency), you must provide notification by the end of the second working day after the absence. This notification should include an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class.

For injury or illness too severe or contagious to attend class, you must provide confirmation of a visit to a health care professional affirming date and time of visit. The Texas A&M University Explanatory Statement for Absence from Class form will not be accepted in this case.

It is YOUR responsibility to schedule a make-up if one is needed. Make up exam times can be found at

<http://www.math.tamu.edu/courses/makeupexams.html>. Make up exams should be taken at the first opportunity after an exam unless you have a university excused absence for that time too. Make-up class activities should be completed prior to the next class when feasible. Any assignments given on the day(s) missed will still be due according to the regular schedule. No rule can cover every situation. If you encounter extenuating circumstances, please communicate with me as soon as possible. No exams will be administered without prior approval, so contact me as soon as possible if you need to miss a scheduled exam or class.

If class is officially cancelled for any reason, you can expect that the assignments due/taken on the missed class day will be due/taken the next time the class meets. Please also check eCampus for additional information.

Activities and Daily Grades

Most book sections will have a reading assignment to help prepare you for that material. You are expected to complete that assignment and have it ready at the beginning of class on the first day we are scheduled to discuss that material. The calendar in the syllabus is a general guide, but due dates in eCampus will supersede the syllabus. In-class activities will generally involve group work and occur during most class periods. Activities may also be assigned as homework. I may collect activities for a grade, participation points, or as a means of taking attendance. Your participation in class also counts toward your daily grade even if papers are not collected. Please attend and participate in all classes.

Project and Deadlines

The project will be submitted in two parts. Part A will be due on March 1, and part B will be due on April 19. For each part, choose a mathematics classroom question from the corresponding list posted in eCampus and write a 2-5 page response to the question. Each response should be appropriate for the grade level identified in the question and should draw from the Math 365 course content. As a part of your response to each question, you should identify the TEKS related to the question. If you use a source when completing work, cite the source. More information will be contained in eCampus. Your priority with the project is a complete, clear, correct, grade-level appropriate mathematical explanation.

Exams

The three in-class exams will each be 75 minutes long. Everything discussed in class, experienced within an activity or assignment, or found in the suggested homework is fair game for content on an exam. **You will be expected to show all of your work and many items will require expository writing (as in explanations).** The third exam will be during the official final exam time. The complete final exam schedule can be viewed at <http://registrar.tamu.edu//General/FinalSchedule.aspx>

Extra Help & Preparing for Exams

Your Professor

Communication is essential. Please communicate with me before class, after class, during office hours, and via email.

Your Classmates

It is also important to communicate with your classmates. You will learn more and be able to build on each other's ideas if you discuss the material with other people. Please consider setting a regular time to meet. This is a useful idea to carry into your teaching career as well.

Thoughtful Practice

I strongly recommend that you practice problems from the book. These homework problems, if addressed independently, can provide an "exam-like" experience. They can also give you more ideas for your project. See the suggested homework list posted in eCampus.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate those who do.”

Academic integrity is vital to an academic community and essential for all students and professors. As an Aggie, you have agreed to know and uphold the honor code. Please review <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu/> carefully. I will be happy to answer any questions you might have. You will be asked to sign the honor code on your work as a reminder of that commitment. If you ever have a question about whether or not an action would be acceptable under the honor code, please ask your professor BEFORE you take the action. If you don't have time to ask, then consider whether or not you would take the action if your professor was beside you.

For this class, I encourage you to study with your classmates (unless I specifically state otherwise). However, all graded work (exams, quizzes, projects, reading assignments, etc.) must clearly be your own individual work, and you should not discuss graded work with anyone who has not completed that work yet. If you use a source when completing work, cite the source.

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