



Marshall University
College of Science
School of Mathematics and Informatics
MTH 121 Syllabus

Course

MTH 121 – Concepts and Applications (CT) Section 114, CRN #2954

Course Description

Critical thinking course for non-science majors that develops quantitative reasoning skills. Topics include logical thinking, problem solving, linear modeling, statistics and probability, exponential and logarithmic modeling, and financial concepts.

Credits

3 credit hours

Prerequisites

PR: ACT Math 19, or SAT Mathematics Before Mar. 16 460, or MTH0XX, or Placement Math 100, or Placement Math After SP17 101, or Math Workshop-UC 100, or WMTH002 Minimum Grade C, or MTH099 Minimum Grade CR, or MTH102 Minimum Grade C, or MTH100 Minimum Grade C, or MTH102B Minimum Grade C, or SAT MATH SECTION SCORE 500.

Term/Year

Fall 2018

Class Meeting Days/Times

This is an online class. There are no on-campus scheduled meetings.

Location

All course materials are located in MUOnline/Blackboard.

Academic Calendar

For beginning, ending, and add/drop dates, see the [Marshall University Academic Calendar](http://www.marshall.edu/calendar/academic) (URL: <http://www.marshall.edu/calendar/academic>).

Instructor

Laura Stapleton

Contact Information

Office: SH 720

Office Hours: 9 – 11 MW, 11 – 12 F. Other times by appointment.

Office Phone: 304-633-4206

Marshall Email: stapleto@marshall.edu

Required Texts, Additional Reading, and Other Materials

1. Students are required to purchase MyMathLab ISBN #9780134702780. You can purchase MyMathLab from the MU Bookstore, directly from Pearson publisher (cheaper), or from sites on the Internet. You can sign up for temporary access even if you haven't purchased your materials. (See HOW TO REGISTER IN MYMATHLAB Step # 5).
2. A physical textbook is **not needed** unless you desire one as there is an ebook within the MyMathLab license. If you would like to purchase the textbook, you can do so at the MU Bookstore or from sites on the internet. The textbook for the course is: Jeffrey O. Bennett and William L. Briggs, Using and Understanding Mathematics, Sixth Edition. ISBN# 9780321914620.
3. Students are required to be able to use a scientific or graphing calculator for the course.
4. Access to a computer with Internet access to reach MuOnline/Blackboard.

University Policies

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies. Please read the full text of each policy (listed below) by going to [Academic Affairs: Marshall University Policies](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/). (URL: <http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/>)

- Academic Dishonesty Policy
- Academic Dismissal Policy
- Academic Forgiveness Policy
- Academic Probation and Suspension Policy
- Affirmative Action Policy
- Dead Week Policy
- D/F Repeat Rule
- Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates
- Inclement Weather Policy
- Sexual Harassment Policy
- Students with Disabilities (Policies and Procedures)
- University Computing Services Acceptable Use Policy

Course Student Learning Outcomes

The table below shows the following relationships: How each student learning outcome will be practiced and assessed in the course.

Course student learning outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this course
Students will analyze real-world problems quantitatively, formulate plausible estimates, assess the validity of visual representations of quantitative information, and differentiate valid from questionable statistical conclusions. Students will apply the quantitative thinking skills that they learn to analyze problems dealing with finance and exponential growth and decay.	In-class activities, homework, quizzes, and Desmos activities, etc.	Exams and projects
Using metacognitive thinking , students will evaluate the effectiveness of their project plan or strategy to determine the degree of their improvement in knowledge and skills.	Online activities, Discussion Board, and homework.	Exams and projects
When students apply integrative thinking , they will make connections and transfer skills and learning among varied disciplines, domains of thinking, experiences, and situations.	Online activities, Discussion Board, and homework.	Exams and projects
Students will formulate focused questions and hypotheses, evaluate existing knowledge, collect and analyze data, and draw justifiable conclusions as they apply inquiry-based thinking .	Online activities, Discussion Board, and homework.	Exams and projects

Course student learning outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this course
Students will demonstrate their communication fluency skills to present their research to specific audiences. Each student will work on short projects on a variety of topics to be determined by the instructor.	Online activities, Discussion Board, and homework.	Projects and presentations.

Grading Policy

A student's grade is assessed by the following percentages earned from each of the categories below:

Exams (3 @ 15%)	45%
Homework	15%
Final Exam	15%
Project	15%
Other Assignments	5%
Discussion Board	5%
	100%

Discussion Board Activities: You will be creating both text and video discussion posts. You do not need to purchase any software or materials for the video recordings. It can be filmed using your phone, tablet, or computer.

There will be four discussion posts in the course. Two will be text based and two will be video based. You will learn the FlipGrid product by creating a practice video in the first week.

PROJECT: This semester you will be creating a critical thinking project. It will be ongoing throughout the semester. You will present your project to the class in a short video.

COURSE POLICIES: All exams and the Final can be found in MyMathLab.

- All exams and the Final are open book/open notes.
- All exams and the Final are timed. When the timer runs out, the assessment will close. So, please pay attention to the time.

- All exams and the Final have 20 – 25 questions and are worth 100%. You will have one attempt and 2 hours for each. (I don't think it you will need this length of time, but I wanted to give you plenty of time.)
- On the day of a deadline, make sure you start the exam/final with enough time to finish before the deadline at 11:59pm. It is your responsibility to finish the module **BEFORE** the deadline. If the exam closes because you ran out of time, that is not a reason to reopen. So, budget your time appropriately.
- All exams and the final are meant to be completed in one setting. If you get kicked out due to a storm, loss of internet, etc., you will be able to log back in but the counter will not stop. If there are any rare and unusual circumstances, please email me and be able to provide documentation.
- **Late Penalty.** All MyMathLab assignments (homework, exams, and the Final) must be received by the due date for maximum credit. Any homework or exam that is received within one week of the due date can still be submitted but will receive a 20% penalty that is automatically deducted. There is no option to turn in the Final Exam late. **Please make note of this difference.** This is the latest day/time that material can be submitted.
- You do not have to work on the **Study Plan**, if you see references to it in MyMathLab.
- You have one attempt on each exam and the final. **Make it your best effort.**

Absenses

- Excused absences – Absences, which last one or two days can be turned in to me. Any absence three days or longer must be submitted to the **Dean of Student Affairs (Office: Memorial Student Center 2W38)**. Examples of excused absences are: death in the family, university sport or activity absence, illness with a physician's excuse, etc. Once the excuse is approved, then the missing material can be submitted for full credit.
- **Unexcused absences** - If you do not have a university excused absence, any incomplete material will not be re-opened and will earn a grade of 0.

Technical Requirements/Support

For minimum hardware/software requirements please see:

<http://www.marshall.edu/muonline/hardwaresoftwarecheck.asp>

- Be sure to run the free web browser tuneup:
<http://www.marshall.edu/muonline/support/tuneup.asp>
- You will need to have several plugins (software) installed on your computer. These plugins are all free. You will need Real Player and Flash Player to experience the streaming video and audio clips that are part of the course. You can easily check your computer to see if you have these programs (and

if you don't install them for free), by clicking on this link:

<http://www.marshall.edu/muonline/support/plugin.asp>

- If you have technical problems, please go to the Help Desk:
<http://www.marshall.edu/muonline/technicalfaq.asp>

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

SERVICE DESK HOURS – Located in Drinko Library on the Main MU Campus

Monday - Thursday: 24 Hours

Friday: 8:00AM - 6:00PM

Saturday & Sunday: On Call Only (Calls received will be returned within 4 hours)

(304) 696-3200 Huntington calling area

(304) 746-1969 Charleston calling area

(877) 689-8638 Toll free, outside the Huntington/Charleston calling areas

<http://www.marshall.edu/inforesources>

itservicedesk@marshall.edu

NEED HELP WITH MyMathLab?

- Visit www.mymathlab.com/get-registered for helpful videos, FAQs, System Requirements
- Or, visit their 24/7 Technical Support site at <http://247pearsoned.custhelp.com>.

How To Register In MyMathLab

The below procedure indicates how you can link your Blackboard course with the MyMathLab course that I have created. You need to do this once; after that, you will only need to sign in to Blackboard in order to reach MyMathLab.

Notes

- You will not need to enter a MyLab & Mastering course ID during registration. If you are prompted for one, then you are not registering correctly. Make sure that you first log in to Blackboard and then access the Pearson course, as described in the following procedure.

How to register for MyMathLab:

These are the basic steps you will take to link your accounts and register for the MyMathLab access.

1. Log in to the Blackboard course.
2. Click the **MyMathLab** folder on the main page of our course.
3. Click **MyMathLab Course Home**

The first time you access the MyLab course through Blackboard, you are prompted to sign in and register. You must sign in with your Pearson account's

username and password. If you do not have a Pearson account, you can create one as part of the registration process.

After signing in or registering, the student payment options appear.

5. You can choose to:

- Redeem a MyMathLab access code that you have already purchased with your book bundle.
- Purchase access with a credit card
- Request temporary access so they can pay later. **If for any reason you do not have your course materials, choose this option. It will allow you to work from Day 1 of the course!**

After this one-time process, you can go to the MyMathLab folder (in the Blackboard course) to launch your MyLab course materials. I have put several links in this folder so you can go directly to homework or tests, etc. After linking your accounts, you will never be prompted to sign in to MyLab & Mastering again from within Blackboard.

Tutoring

- The Department of Mathematics offers a free tutoring lab for Marshall students enrolled in mathematics courses in Smith Hall 625. The tutors can help with all classes up to MTH 231. No appointment is necessary; just stop in and ask for a tutor. More information regarding the Tutoring center can be found at: <https://www.marshall.edu/math/tutoring/>
- The University College Tutoring Center in the Communications Building (second floor Smith Hall) has tutors who are available for free, by appointment. Additional information can be found at <http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/uc/tutoring-services>

Course Schedule

The course content will be deployed Week-by-Week through MUOnline/Blackboard using **MUOnline/Blackboard** and **MyMathLab**. Each week, you should click on the appropriate folder and view the contents that are to be completed during that week. All material for the week is due by Sunday at 11:59pm.

For example, any assignments from Blackboard and MyMathLab assigned during the week of 8/20/18 are due on 8/26/18 (Sunday) at 11:59pm. If you miss the due date, you can still turn in the Blackboard or MyMathLab assignments within one week (9/2/18 at 11:59pm) but you will receive a 20% penalty on all materials. After the Late Penalty date has passed the assignment is worth 0 points. There is no late option for the Final exam.

Folder:	MyMathLab and Blackboard assignments that may be assigned within the folder.	Due Date for all of the week's material. Due @ 11:59pm on:	Late Penalty (20%) for all material completed before this date @ 11:59pm:
Week of 08/20/18	2A, About Me Course Introduction, Practice FlipGrid Video Discussion, Project Part 1, and Informed Consent	8/26/18	9/02/18
Week of 08/27/18	Project Part 2, 2B,	9/02/18	9/09/18
Week of 09/03/18	3A, 3B, Geo Scavenger Hunt Discussion Forum	09/09/18	09/16/18
Week of 09/10/18	3C, 3D	9/16/18	9/24/18
Week of 09/17/18	Exam 1 , 4A, Project Part 3	9/24/18	9/30/18
Week of 09/24/18	4B, 4C	9/30/18	10/07/18
Week of 10/01/18	4D, 4E, Project Part 4	10/07/18	10/14/18
Week of 10/08/18	5C, FlipGrid Video Discussion, and Exam 2	10/14/18	10/21/18
Week of 10/15/18	6A, 6B, Mean, Median, & Mode Discussion Forum	10/21/18	10/28/18
Week of 10/22/18	6C, 7A, Coin Toss Assignment	10/28/18	11/04/18
Week of 10/29/18	7B, 7C, Probability Discussion Forum	11/04/18	11/11/18
Week of 11/05/18	7E, Project Part 5	11/11/18	11/18/18
Week of 11/12/18	Exam 3 , 8A	11/18/18	12/02/18
Week of 11/19/18	Fall Break		
Week of 11/26/18	8B, Project Part 6, FlipGrid Video Discussion	12/02/18	12/09/18
Week of 12/03/18	1A, 1B	12/09/18	12/16/18
Week of 12/10/18	Final Exam	12/16/18	There is no late option for the Final.