

**MTH 125-101: Mathematical Thinking (CT)**  
Fall 2011

Instructor: Stacy Scudder  
Email: [scudder@marshall.edu](mailto:scudder@marshall.edu) (best way to reach me!)  
Meeting Times: MWF 10:00 am – 10:50 am  
Classroom: SH 514  
Office: SH 743F  
Phone: 304-696-3035  
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 am – 10:00 am  
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Other hours by appointment or I may be available on Wimba Pronto

**Textbook**                      Math in Our World, 2nd Edition by Sobecki. ISBN: 9780077356651

**Calculator**                      A graphing calculator is suggested

**MUOnline**                      I use MUOnline extensively with this course. If you miss a day of class, you may check the calendar on MUOnline to find out what you missed and any assignments given. There will be supplemental video lectures, as well as exercise videos to go with the homework available to you on the website.

**Course Description**                      A Core I and Core II critical thinking class for non-majors that develops quantitative reasoning skills. Class includes topics in elementary finite mathematics; sets, counting, probability and statistics, matrices and linear equations.  
PR: MTH 099 or Math ACT 19 or better

**Course Objectives**

- To form a basis for developing critical thinking skills in the context of mathematics.
- To attain a better understanding of several rich mathematical ideas as well as the times and creators of those ideas.
- To discover the power of mathematical and abstract thinking in everyday life that will change our view of the world.
- To be able to communicate mathematical and abstract concepts effectively.

**Attendance**                      Your success in this class is directly related to your own efforts. You will be more likely to succeed if you attend class each day and come prepared to contribute. Students are expected to attend and participate in each class; however, attendance will not be counted towards your final grade.

## **Learning Outcomes**

- Students should develop rigorous thinking skills and an Outcomes: ability to analyze and assess information;
- Students should be able to display skill in asking essential questions, questions that enable them to analyze and assess the thinking of others as well as their own thinking;
- Students should have a strong number sense and be proficient in estimation;
- Students should be able to communicate intelligently about mathematics;
- Students should be familiar with basic uses of mathematics in art, especially the golden rectangle and fractals;
- Students should have a familiarity with spatial geometry, the fourth dimension, and rubber sheet geometry;
- Students should understand how repeated simple processes can result in chaos.
- Students should be able to demonstrate that mathematics is a product of human endeavors by citing its history and discussing several main contributors and their contributions.

## **Cell Phone and Electronics**

All cell phones are to be turned off or set to vibrate and NOT PLACED ON THE DESK. Texting is not permitted during class. If you are seen texting in class, you will be asked to leave. Furthermore, you are not allowed to have any electronic devices I feel may distract you or other students from the material being presented (i.e. MP3 players, laptop computers, etc...). If you are found to be operating any of these devices in an inappropriate way, you will be asked to leave.

## **Homework**

Homework problems are to be completed on the class website on MUOnline. There will be between 2 and 6 problems for each section and the exercise videos work through similar problems. You have from the day of the corresponding lecture until the last day of class to finish these assignments; keep in mind, however, that your online grade won't be correct unless all the assignments have been completed. You only have one attempt for each assignment, but an unlimited amount of time to complete the problems. If you have problems viewing an assignment, don't complete it and let me know as soon as possible. I can reset the assignment so you can finish it.

## **Exams**

There will be a total of four exams including the final. Exams may consist of multiple choice, matching, short computational problems, essays, and comprehensive problems. Exams must be taken at the scheduled times unless advance arrangements have been made with me. Failure to follow this policy will result in a zero for the exam. If you are absent the day of an exam, you will only be allowed to take a make-up exam after presenting me with a university excused absence.

## Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on the number of points possible for the class based on homework, quizzes and exams. The percentage ranges and corresponding letter grades are as follows:

A 90% -100%

B 80% - 89%

C 70% - 79%

D 60% - 69%

F 0% - 59%

## Academic Dishonesty

Cheating is taken very seriously in this class. If you are caught cheating on a quiz, you will be issued ONE warning. After that, you will be asked to leave and will receive a failing grade for the class. There will be NO warnings if you're caught cheating on an exam. The first instance of confirmed cheating will result in a failure for the class, not just the exam.

## Math Lab

There is a math lab located in SH 526 for anyone who needs more help in this, or any math class. I highly recommend you take full advantage of this service as much as possible, not just before exams.

**Policy for Students with Disabilities:** Marshall University is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with physical, learning and psychological disabilities. University policy states that it is the responsibility of students with disabilities to contact the Office of Disabled Student Services (DSS) in Prichard Hall 117, phone 304 696-2271 to provide documentation of their disability. Following this, the DSS Coordinator will send a letter to each of the student's instructors outlining the academic accommodation he/she will need to ensure equality in classroom experiences, outside assignment, testing and grading. The instructor and student will meet to discuss how the accommodation(s) requested will be provided. For more information, please visit <http://www.marshall.edu/disabled> or contact Disabled Student Services Office at Prichard Hall 11, phone 304-696-2271.

**University Computing Services Acceptable Use Policy:** All students are responsible for knowing this policy, which can be found on the web at <http://www.marshall.edu/ucs/CS/accptuse.asp>

**Academic Dishonesty Policy:** All students should be familiar with the university's policy concerning academic dishonesty. This policy can be found on pp. 66-68 of the undergraduate catalog [http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/ug\\_10-11\\_published.pdf](http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/ug_10-11_published.pdf).

**Affirmative Action Policy:** This Course will follow Marshall University's policy on Affirmative Action, which can be found on p. 65 of the 2010-2011 undergraduate catalog [http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/ug\\_10-11\\_published.pdf](http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/ug_10-11_published.pdf). Specifically, all students will be afforded equal opportunity without regard to race, color, sex, religion, age, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation.

**Inclement Weather Policy:** Students can find information concerning Marshall's policy regarding inclement weather on pp. 64-56 of the 2010-2011 undergraduate online catalog [http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/ug\\_10-11\\_published.pdf](http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/ug_10-11_published.pdf).

**Important Dates:**

September 7, Monday  
Labor Day Holiday – No classes

October 28, Friday  
Last Day to Drop a Full Semester Individual Course

November 7, Monday – November 18, Friday  
Advance Registration for Spring Semester for Currently Enrolled Students

November 21, Monday – November 27, Sunday  
Thanksgiving Break – No Classes

December 6, Tuesday  
Last Class Day and Last Day to Completely Withdraw for Fall Semester

**FINAL EXAM**  
Monday, December 12th from 10:15 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.