Spring Semester of the 2014-2015 School Year

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Matthew Carlton Office: Smith Hall 722

**OFFICE HOURS:** M-W-F 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

T- TR 10:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**PRIMARY EMAIL:** [carlton@marshall.edu](mailto:carlton@marshall.edu)

**SECTIONS:**

**MTH 121, Section 205, CRN 4088 - MWF 12:00 - 12:50 - SH 518**

**MTH 121, Section 206, CRN 4089 - MWF 1:00 - 1:50 - SH 518**

**MTH 121, Section 210, CRN 4093 - TR 9:30 - 10:45 - SH 516**

**MTH 121, Section 211, CRN 4094 - TR 12:00 - 1:45 - SH 516**

**BOOK REQUIRED**: Using and Understanding Mathematics – Fifth Edition

Authors: Jeffrey Bennet and William Briggs

**GRADING SCALE:** 90-100 **A**; 80-89 **B**; 70-79 **C**; 60-69 **D**; 0-59 **F**.

There are three in-class tests for this class.

The first test will cover Sections 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D. This exam will be given when we have completed these sections. There is no official date. You will know well in advance of any test. If you miss test 1 for any reason, your final will count as double.

The second test will cover Sections 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, and 3D. The test will take place after we have completed these sections. You will know well in advance of any test. There is no date scheduled. If you miss exam 2 for any reason, the final will count as double. If you miss both test 1 and test 2 or if you miss the final, you will receive an F for the class.

The final test will cover Sections 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, and 4F. The final will be given as scheduled by the Marshall University schedule; you will know when this is well in advance.

TEST FORMAT: There will be exactly 10 multiple choice questions on each test. Each test question is worth 10 points. All tests are open book and open notes. You will be handed a package of practice problems to assist you in passing the tests. You may bring these with you when you take the tests. You may use a calculator, but it must be just a calculator, not a phone or anything else. Your grade will be the average of these three tests.

**This course is classified as a “Critical Thinking” course. As such, the objectives for this course are as follows:**

1. Learn WHY things work in addition to how things work.
2. Learn HOW to communicate your results effectively to an audience.
3. AFTER obtaining an answer, EXPLAIN what it means.

We are using the handout problems as a vehicle to achieve these objectives. You have not achieved these objectives by merely getting the answers to the handout problems and the test problems. The objectives can only be achieved by attending the class and participating in the class. This course begins after you have the answers to the problems.

This class is one of the most useful classes you will ever take in regard to your life after college. If you plan on buying a car, a house, having a retirement fund, or using money for anything, this class will help you learn what it takes to make those things happen. You will get out of this class what you put into it. This is NOT your average math class.

There will be no in-class calculator instruction. See me in my office for help or the tutors that are available in Smith Hall 115 for help. If all else fails, read the instructions that came with your calculator.

All special accommodations students: Have someone from your program pick up the test at the classroom door at the beginning of the test period. Make sure they get a copy of these directions.

University policy for students with disabilities: It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to contact the office of Disabled Student Services in Prichard Hall 117 or call phone 304-697-2271 to provide documentation of their disability. For more information, visit <http://www.marshall.edu/disabled>.

**ATTENDING CLASS, LISTENING, AND PARTICIPATING COULD RESULT IN YOU LEARNING THE FOLLOWING:**

1. An interpretation of the book and handout problems.
2. How to read more carefully.
3. How to think more critically.
4. How to express yourself more clearly.
5. An addressing of the ambiguities in the book and handout problems.
6. An addressing of the mistakes in the book and handout problems. There are not many, but some are serious.
7. How to work most of the problems.
8. Why I am working them the way that I do.
9. An explanation of what the answers mean.
10. Uses for this course in your personal life.
11. Since I worked for 38 years in the business world, an explanation in the macro sense, not the micro sense, of how some of this material is used outside the university.
12. A discussion of current events that pertain to the material in class.
13. A discussion of past events that pertain to the material in class.

4 WAYS TO GET THE ANSWERS TO THE HANDOUT PROBLEMS:

1. Ask me in class to work the problem out.
2. Ask me in class if your answer is right.
3. Ask me in class what the answer is.
4. See me in my office.
5. See the tutors.

NOTE 1: Do not email me for answers.

NOTE 2: It is possible to pass this course without studying 2 hours outside of class for each hour of class, but it is not impossible for you to fully achieve the objectives of this course if you do not.

NOTE 3: This is not a course where I tell you how to do things and then you go do them. This is a course where I explain things and you build upon that.

NOTE 4: It is suggested you attend and participate in class, work through the examples in the book, and work the handout problems.

ADDENDUM:

Additional credit may be obtained as follows: You may volunteer to put on the board and explain some of the multiple choice questions in the handout. This will be done in such a way that throughout the semester, all students will have an equal number of chances to volunteer. Each time you volunteer, 5 points will be added to your next test score.

**CLASS PROTOCOL:**

Although attendance is not required, this does not mean you may enter or leave class as you see fit.

Do not enter class late. By definition, late is after role has been taken.

Do not leave and return during the same class period.

Do not leave before class is over unless you tell me before class starts that you need to. I do not need for you to tell me why you must leave early.

No texting or any cell phone use during class.

Adhering to the above is only an expression of good manners. If you cannot do so, I suggest you switch to another section.