MTH 125-201: Mathematical Thinking (CT)
Spring 2013

Instructor: Stacy Scudder

Meeting Times: MWF 12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.

Classroom: SH 513

Office: SH 743F

Phone: 304-696-3035

Office Hours: MWF 8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
  Monday 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
  Wednesday 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
  Other hours by appointment

Email: scudder@marshall.edu

Instructor Contact & Feedback	The best way to contact me is through email. I usually respond within a few hours, although this isn't always possible. I also try to leave Blackboard IM running when I'm home. You may call my office, but make sure you leave a message if I'm not available. The voicemail messages get emailed to me so I may respond by either method – most likely through email. I expect you to participate in class by joining the discussion, answering questions or asking questions. If you aren't comfortable asking questions in class, you can email me or drop by my office. The only stupid questions are the ones you never ask! I will do my best to get work back to you within 2 classes of the due date.
Steps to Success	1) Read the textbook section BEFORE class 2) Come to class on time 3) Take notes in class 4) Ask questions! 5) If you miss class, make sure you check the calendar on MUOnline to see what you miss. 6) Do the homework problems as soon after class as possible 7) Check MUOnline for examples of selected homework problems – with audio and video or other resources 8) Ask questions! 9) Do homework problems from the book for sections you don't understand 10) Ask questions!

Textbook	Math in Our World, 2nd Edition by Sobecki. ISBN: 9780077356651
Calculator	A graphing calculator is suggested
MUOnline	Although this isn't an online class, I will use MUonline to post material throughout the semester. Homework problems are all online. Practice exams will be posted at least one week prior to the exams. In-class worksheets will also be posted the day they are done in class. I post the section(s) covered in class, any textbook homework, and any other relevant information in the calendar.

If you have to miss class, you need to check the calendar entry so you don't fall behind. There will also be other resources (videos, links to websites, etc.) posted in the resources link. I try to keep the grades up to date online when possible, but you're always welcome to come to my office for an update.

Tech support information is listed on the New and Due page of the class website. You can also ask me for help, but I don't always guarantee I can answer your question. |
| **Math Lab** | There is a math lab located in SH 115 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. |
| **Course Description** | A 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 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	The classroom is a learning environment and I do not feel students are able to learn while being distracted. Therefore, all cell phones are to be turned off or set to vibrate. 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, laptops, tablets, etc…). If you are found to be operating any of these devices in an inappropriate way, you will be asked to leave.
Homework	Homework exercises may show up on quizzes or exams, so it is in your best interest to understand how to work them. We will go over a few homework problems you have questions about at the beginning of class. You may also ask me after class or during office hours about a particular problem.
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 total points possible for the class based on assignments, quizzes and exams. To determine your score at any time during the semester:

1.) Add up all your points
2.) Add up the total possible points
3.) Divide your points by the total points and multiply it by 100

For example, suppose you have 250 points and there are 295 points possible.
250 / 295 = .8475 X 100 = 84.75%

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%

I will try to keep the grades up to date on MUOnline, but you're always welcome to come to my office to see your current grade. I can't email grades so please don't ask.

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.

University Policies

Academic Dishonesty
All students should be familiar with the university's policy concerning academic dishonesty. This policy can be found on pp. 67 – 69 of the 2012 – 2013 online undergraduate catalog http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/UG_12-13_published.pdf.

Excused Absence
This policy can be found on pp. 81 – 83 of the 2012 – 2013 online undergraduate catalog, which can be accessed at http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/UG_12-13_published.pdf. This policy applies only to undergraduate courses.

Inclement Weather
Students can find information concerning Marshall's policy regarding inclement weather on pp. 65 – 66 of the 2012 – 2013 online undergraduate online catalog http://www.marshall.edu/catalog/undergraduate/UG_12-13_published.pdf.

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 117, phone 304-696-2271.

Important Dates:

January 20, Monday
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – no classes

March 10, Monday
Deadline for Submitting Freshmen Mid-Term Grades

March 16 – 23, Sunday - Sunday
Spring Break

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

April 3, Wednesday
Assessment Day – no classes

May 2, Friday
Last Class Day and Last Day to Completely Withdraw for Fall Semester

FINAL EXAM
Friday, May 9th from 10:15 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.