



**Common Course Syllabus: Contemporary Mathematics with Support
(MATH 1332)
Fall 2026**

Department: Mathematics, Engineering, and Computer Science

Discipline: Mathematics

Course Number: MATH 1332

Section: 608

Course Title: Contemporary Mathematics

Available Formats: conventional, hybrid, internet, and ITV. This section is a conventional format.

Campuses: Levelland, Downtown Center, Plainview Center, and Dual Credit. This section meets face-to-face at the Lubbock Downtown Center campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week from 11:00 am-12:15 pm in room B009.

Course Description: Intended for Non-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) majors. Topics include introductory treatments of sets and logic, financial mathematics, probability and statistics with appropriate applications. Number sense, proportional reasoning, estimation, technology, and communication should be embedded throughout the course. Additional topics may be covered.

Prerequisite: Minimum score of 350 on the TSIA1, minimum score of 950 on the TSIA2, a diagnostic score of 6 on the TSIA2, TSI-exempt status, a successful completion with a grade of 'C' or better in MATH 0337, or successful completion of NCBM-0112.

Credit: 3 **Lecture:** 3 **Lab:** 0

Instructor: Jerod Clopton

Office: Lubbock Downtown Center, B019

Telephone: (806) 716-2738

Email: jclopton@southplainscollege.edu

Email Policy: All students at South Plains College are assigned a standardized SPC e-mail account. Although personal email addresses will continue to be collected, the assigned SPC e-mail account will be used as the official channel of communication for South Plains College. The Student Correspondence Policy can be found at www.southplainscollege.edu. To access the SPC student e-mail account, log in to portal.office.com. (Copied from SPC Student Guide) Since all students have an assigned SPC email, the instructor will only acknowledge, respond, and send emails to your assigned SPC email. This ensures all correspondence from the instructor is received by the intended recipient.

- My expected response time to received emails is as follows:
 - For emails sent on Monday-Thursday, I will attempt to respond within 24 hours.
 - For emails sent on Friday-Sunday, I may not respond until the following Monday.

Office Hours

Face-to-Face Office Hours

- Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15 am-12:00 pm
- Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-9:00 am, 2:45-3:30 pm
- Fridays, 10:15-11:15 am

Virtual Office Hours

- Tuesdays, 9:30-10:30 pm

Students are welcome to come by my office anytime during my scheduled office hours.

Face-to-face and virtual appointments may be scheduled by contacting me by email or in person, or by scheduling through Blackboard.

Textbook: A textbook is not required for this course. However, a recommended and freely available textbook for this course may be: Contemporary Mathematics from OpenStax, Print ISBN-13: 978-1711470559, Digital PDF ISBN-13: 978-1-951693-68-8, <https://openstax.org/details/books/contemporary-mathematics>.

This textbook is also embedded in your Blackboard course for easier referencing. However, if you prefer a print copy as a reference tool, the ISBN is located at the web link above.

Supplies:

- Calculator: You may use a scientific calculator on most homework, quizzes, and exams. The [TI-30XII scientific calculator](#) is my (the instructor's) preferred type, but many others are also acceptable. Graphing calculators, calculators on cell phones, TI-89, TI-92, or TI-Inspire calculators, or any other electronic devices will not be allowed during testing without permission from the instructor. If you have any questions about your calculator, check with the instructor immediately.
 - Note that some assignments will require the use of a calculator. Some of the required functions that your calculator must have are log, ln, sin, cos, and tan. Bring your calculator to every class meeting.
- Paper, maybe a small amount of graph paper, pencils, and erasers.
- Access to a reliable internet service and a way to print documents.
- Access to a scanner or scanning app. Work for homework assignments will be uploaded into Gradescope.
 - It is recommended that you download the [Gradescope Mobile App](#) to scan and upload your coursework.
- You may want a 3-ring binder (about 2 inches) and dividers to keep track of all the course materials.

Blackboard: Blackboard is the online course management system that will be utilized for this course. This course is supplemented online, so all access to course information and your instructor is through the Internet. This course syllabus, as well as all course materials can be accessed through Blackboard. Login at <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com/>. The username and password should be the same as the MySPC and SPC email.

Username: first initial, last name, and last 4 digits of the Student ID

Password: Original Campus Connect Pin No. (found on SPC acceptance letter)

Questions regarding Blackboard support may be emailed to blackboard@southplainscollege.edu or by telephone to 806-716-2180.

This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Mathematics Foundational Component Area (020)

Core Curriculum Objectives addressed:

- **Communications skills**—to include effective written, oral and visual communication
- **Critical thinking skills**—to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- **Empirical and quantitative competency skills**—to manipulate and analyze numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course and receiving a passing grade, the student will be able to:

1. Apply the language and notation of sets.

2. Determine the validity of an argument or statement and provide mathematical evidence.
3. Solve problems in mathematics of finance.
4. Demonstrate fundamental probability/counting techniques and apply those techniques to solve problems.
5. Interpret and analyze various representations of data.
6. Demonstrate the ability to choose and analyze mathematical models to solve problems from real-world settings, including, but not limited to, personal finance, health literacy, and civic engagement.

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment: A pre- and post-test questions (assignments, quizzes, and major exams) will be used to determine the extent of improvement that the students have gained during the semester.

Course Evaluation: There will be departmental final exam questions given by all instructors. Your final average in the course will determine the letter grade posted on your transcript. Grades will be updated on Blackboard during the semester. Your grade is determined by the following scale: A (90-100%), B (80-89%), C (70-79%), D (60-69%), F (0-59%).

- Unit Exams (4 total) = 20% each (80% total)
- Final Exam = 20%

Homework: The purpose of homework assignments is to provide you, the student, with the opportunity to practice and master the material presented in the lectures. Your understanding of the material will be assessed through quizzes and exams.

Because homework is assigned as practice, rather than an assessment of mastery, it is not included as a percentage of the course grade. Instead, your homework average will be converted to bonus points that will be applied to your current grade at the end of the course using the following formula:

$$\text{Homework Bonus} = 0.05(\text{Homework Average})$$

Work the problems on the homework assignment. Check your work with the provided answer key. If you do not get a problem correct or do not understand how to solve the problem, seek to understand why (rework the problem, rewatch the lecture videos, email me, ...). The purpose of the homework is to help you identify and address those areas of difficulty before they are assessed on a quiz or exam.

Assignment Format and Policy: Follow these guidelines when doing and submitting work for homework assignments.

- Work on your own paper, not on the provided assignment papers.
- Write the question number.
- In solving the problem, show all required work.
- Clearly mark your answer.
- Check your answers in Blackboard to make certain you are practicing the exercises correctly.
- Write your name at the top of each page of your work.
- Submit the assignment in Gradescope as a single PDF file, preferably using the [Gradescope Mobile App](#). (PDF files can be generated easily using a scanner or many freely available phone apps, like CamScanner, Scannable, or OneDrive.)
- All homework assignments will be due before class, one week from the assigned date. (See the tentative course calendar for assignment due dates)

To receive full credit for a homework assignment, work and answers must be submitted for each problem on the homework assignment. Points will be deducted for problems not completed or for an insufficient amount of work shown.

Make certain to complete and submit assignments on time (or early). Early submissions are welcome! Late assignments will not be accepted.

If you are unable to use the Gradescope app to scan and upload your work into Gradescope, you should use your cell phone or scanner to scan your work into a single PDF file and upload your work to Gradescope through their Website. Not being able to use the Gradescope app is not an excuse for not turning in homework on time.

Quiz Format and Policy: Quizzes may be given during any class meeting during the semester. No late quizzes will be accepted, as quizzes are to be taken during the class time.

Exam Format and Policy: Face-to-face examinations will be given on specified days in the calendar below. Exams are to be taken during the class time. No electronic communication devices (phones, smart watches, headphones, earbuds, etc.) are permitted during examinations. No make-up exams will be given. The grade from the final exam (if higher than your lowest exam grade) will replace the lowest unit exam grade. The comprehensive final exam will be given on Tuesday, December 8, from 10:15 am-12:15 pm.

To maximize your potential for successfully completing this course:

- Login to Blackboard daily.
- Watch the lecture videos and take notes on them.
- Thoroughly complete and submit the assignments on time.
- Practice the exercises repeatedly until you have full mastery of them.

Attendance/Student Engagement Policy: Attendance and engagement are the most critical activities for success in this course. The instructor maintains records of the student's attendance and submission of assignments throughout the semester. The student is expected to attend at least eighty percent (80%) of the **total** class meetings **and** submit at least eighty percent (80%) of the **total** class assignments to have the best chance of success. If the student fails to meet these minimum requirements, the instructor may remove the student from the class with an X, upon their discretion, to help the student from harming their GPA. If the student can not receive an X, the instructor will assign an F.

SPC Tutors: Tutoring is FREE for all currently enrolled students. Make an appointment or drop-in for help at any SPC location or online! Visit the link below to learn more about how to book an appointment, view the tutoring schedule, and view tutoring locations.

<http://www.southplainscollege.edu/exploreprograms/artsandsciences/teacheredtutoring.php>

Brainfuse

You also have 180 FREE minutes of tutoring with Brainfuse each week, and your hours reset every Monday morning. Log into Blackboard, and click on the tools option from the left-hand menu bar. Click on the Brainfuse link and you will automatically be logged in for free tutoring. You may access Brainfuse tutors during the following times:

Monday – Thursday: 8 pm-8 am

6pm Friday – 8am Monday morning

For questions regarding tutoring, please email tutoring@southplainscollege.edu or call 806-716-224

Academic Integrity (Plagiarism and Cheating Policy):

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Turning in a paper that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student, an online term paper site, or a mail order term paper mill;
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;

3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.

Cheating violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Obtaining an examination by stealing or collusion;
2. Discovering the content of an examination before it is given;
3. Using an unauthorized source of information (notes, textbook, text messaging, internet, apps) during an examination, quiz, or homework assignment;
4. Entering an office or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
5. Taking an examination for another;
6. Altering grade records;
7. Copying another's work during an examination or on a homework assignment;
8. Rewriting another student's work in Peer Editing so that the writing is no longer the original student's;
9. Taking pictures of a test, test answers, or someone else's paper.

It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. (SPC General Catalog)

Plagiarism and cheating are not tolerated in this course. Under the policies of South Plains College, punishment for cheating may include no credit (failing) on the assignment, quiz, exam, or the course.

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect from the student and the instructor. Neither the instructor nor the student should be subject to others' rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning behavior. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Syllabus Statements: For information regarding official South Plains College statements about intellectual exchange, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE Team, and Campus Concealed Carry, please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

COVID Response: South Plains College policies, return to campus plan, and protocols regarding COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/emergency/covid19-faq.php>.

SPC Bookstore Price Match Guarantee Policy: If you find a lower price on a textbook, the South Plains College bookstore will match that price. The difference will be given to the student on a bookstore gift certificate! The gift certificate can be spent on anything in the store.

If students have already purchased textbooks and then find a better price later, the South Plains College bookstore will price match through the first week of the semester. The student must have a copy of the receipt and the book has to be in stock at the competition at the time of the price match.

The South Plains College bookstore will happily price match BN.com & books on Amazon noted as *ships from and sold by Amazon.com*. Online marketplaces such as *Other Sellers* on Amazon, Amazon's Warehouse Deals, *fulfilled by Amazon*, BN.com Marketplace, and peer-to-peer pricing are not eligible. They will price match the exact textbook, in the same edition and format, including all accompanying materials, like workbooks and CDs.

A textbook is only eligible for price match if it is in stock on a competitor's website at time of the price match request. Additional membership discounts and offers cannot be applied to the student's refund.

Price matching is only available on in-store purchases. Digital books, access codes sold via publisher sites, rentals and special orders are not eligible. Only one price match per title per customer is allowed.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to modify the course syllabus and policies, as well as notify students of any changes, at any point during the semester.

Tentative Course Calendar: Contemporary Mathematics (TT 11:00 am)
Fall 2026

Week	Day	Topic	Homework Due Assignments are due by the beginning of class
Week 1: Aug 24-28	Tue	- Course Introduction 1.1: Exponents, Order of Operations, Scientific Notation	
	Thu	1.2: Solving Linear Equations	
Week 2: Aug 31-Sept 4	Tue	1.3: Applications of Linear Equations 1.4: Introduction to Polynomials	HW 1.1
	Thu	1.5: Solving Quadratic Equations	HW 1.2
Week 3: Sept 7-11 (Mon Sept 7: Labor Day Holiday)	Tue	1.6: The Coordinate System, Distance and Midpoint 1.7: Intro to Lines and Slope	HW 1.3 HW 1.4
	Thu	1.8: Equations of Lines 1.9: Graphs and Models	HW 1.5
Week 4: Sept 14-18	Tue	1.10: Systems of Linear Equations 1.11: Applications of Linear Systems	HW 1.6 HW 1.7
	Thu	Review over Unit 1	HW 1.8 HW 1.9
Week 5: Sept 21-25	Tue	Exam #1 – Algebra (Tue, Sept 22)	HW 1.10 HW 1.11
	Thu	2.1: Measurement and Conversions 2.2: Ratios and Proportions	
Week 6: Sept 28-Oct 2	Tue	2.3: Variation 2.4: Simple and Compound Interest	
	Thu	2.5: Loan Amortization and the Costs and Advantages of Home Ownership 2.6: Financial Investments	HW 2.1 HW 2.2
Week 7: Oct 5-9	Tue	- Review over Unit 2	HW 2.3 HW 2.4
	Thu	Exam #2 – Consumer Math (Thu, Oct 8)	HW 2.5 HW 2.6
Week 8: Oct 12-16 (Oct 16: SPC Fall Break)	Tue	3.1: Angles, Curves, and Polygons 3.2: Triangles: Similarity and the Pythagorean Theorem	
	Thu	3.3: Perimeter, Circumference and Area 3.4: 3-D Shapes, Surface Area and Volume	
Week 9: Oct 19-23	Tue	3.5: Right Triangle Trigonometry	HW 3.1 HW 3.2
	Thu	Review over Unit 3	HW 3.3 HW 3.4
Week 10: Oct 26-30	Tue	Exam #3 – Geometry (Tue, Oct 27)	HW 3.5
	Thu	4.1: Sets, Subsets, Set Operations and Venn Diagrams 4.2: Surveys and Cardinal Numbers	
Week 11: Nov 2-6	Tue	4.3: Counting by Systematic Listing 4.4: Using the Fundamental Counting Principle	

	Thu	• 4.5: Counting Problems Involving “Not” and “Or” • 4.6: Basic Probability Concepts	HW 4.1 HW 4.2
Week 12: Nov 9-13	Tue	• 4.7: Probability Events Involving “Not” and “Or” • 4.8: Conditional Probability and Events Involving “And”	HW 4.3 HW 4.4
	Thu	• 4.9: Mathematical Expectation • 4.10: Visual Displays of Data	HW 4.5 HW 4.6
Week 13: Nov 16-20	Tue	• 4.11: Measures of Central Tendency	HW 4.7 HW 4.8
	Thu	• Review over Unit 4	HW 4.9 HW 4.10
Week 14: Nov 23-27 (Nov 25-27: Thanksgiving Holiday)	Tue	• Exam #4 – Probability and Statistics (Tue, Nov 24)	HW 4.11
Week 15: Nov 30-Dec 4 (Dec 3: Last day to Fall courses)	Tue	• Review for Comprehensive Final	
	Thu		
Week 16: Dec 7-10	Tue	• Final Exam – this cumulative exam will be Tuesday, December 8th, from 10:15am to 12:15pm.	