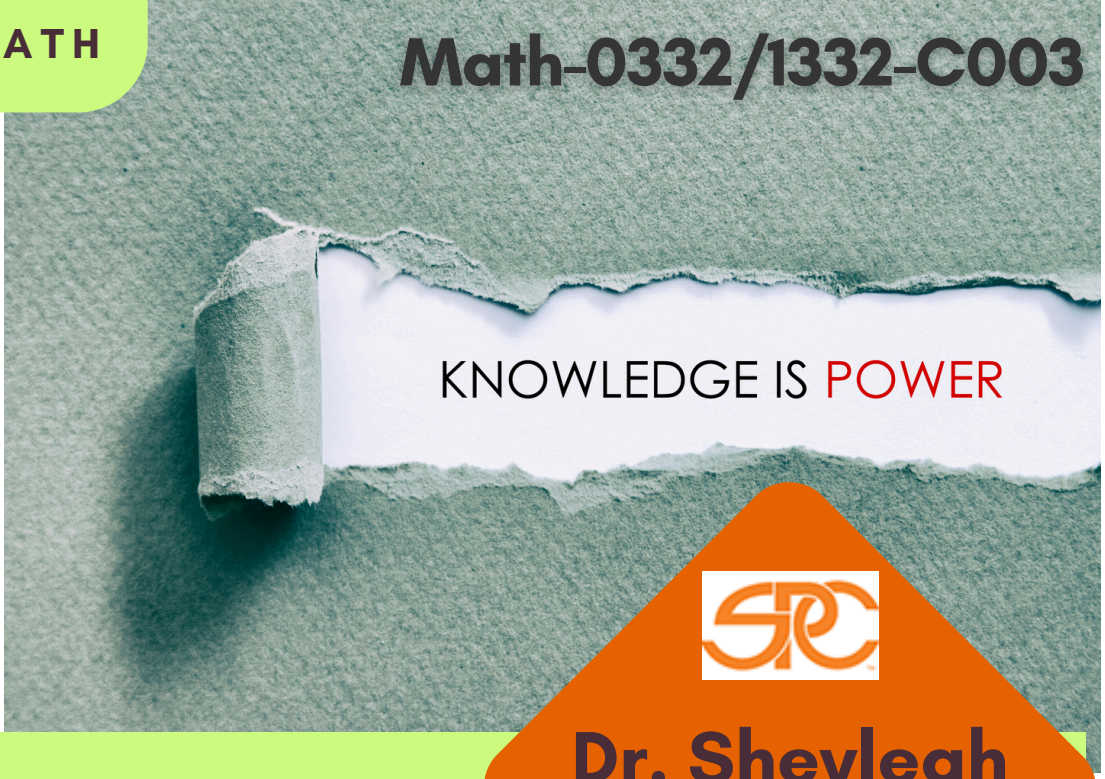
CONTEMPORARY MATH

Math-0332/1332-C003



SPRING 2026

Dr. Sheyleah Harris-Plant
(she, her, hers)

DR. HP

Welcome to Contemporary Math

Meets on Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 p.m. in the Agriculture Building (East Wing of the Math Building) room 105 in Levelland, TX

Are you ready to explore the math used in everyday life? This class will cover practical math skills needed in everyday life.

Student Help Sessions (A.K.A. Office Hours)

Levelland Campus (M120A):
Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Lubbock Downtown Center (B001):
Mondays and Wednesdays 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm
Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:30 pm - 5:15 pm

Online (Virtual) (Link on Blackboard):
Mondays 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Thursdays 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Fridays 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

or **by appointment**
(scan QR code or use the link to make an appointment)
Schedule an appointment

CONTENTS

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What are we required to do for this class?

Our classroom is hybrid. This means the questions, exams, and lectures (as much as possible) are completed inside the class. Lecture completion, practice, and other assignments occur outside of class.

Practice problems (homework problems) will not be collected for a grade because the amount of practice each person needs is individual to their learning style and mathematical history.

A grade will be taken for being prepared for class and paying attention in class.

COURSE LEARNING GOALS

At the end of the semester, we will be able to:

- Determine the validity of an argument or statement and provide mathematical evidence.
- Solve problems in mathematics of finance.
- Interpret and analyze various representations of data.
- 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.

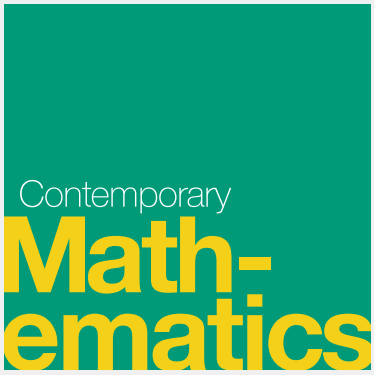
SUPPLIES & OPTIONAL TEXTS

Writing Utensil

8.5 inch x 11 inch paper

Non-Programmable Scientific Calculator (No Graphing)

Large Binder with Dividers



Contemporary Mathematics
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What are the assignments for this class?

Personal Responsibility (Worth 0.40 points each)
The grade will be taken daily based on demonstrating important basic soft skills that employers deem important. These include, but are not limited to, punctuality, self-respect, respect for peers and authority, and professional conduct. This includes not being distracted by your cell phone during class.

Mastery Assessments (Worth 1 point each)
Free response assessment that you can use your notes. The purpose of the assignment is to give us a snapshot of the mastery of the course material for that week. Upload work weekly on Gradescope. There will be 14 assessments, with 4 assessments being extra credit. Any missed Mastery Assessment will not be allowed to be taken after the due date.

Unit Portfolio (Worth 2 points each)
Your binder will be collected on exam days to be graded. The lecture notes and practice (homework) problems will be kept in a binder as a portfolio. This portfolio will serve as a textbook and study guide, so keeping it organized and up to date is important. There will be six (6) portfolio checks over the semester.

Unit Exams (Worth 10 points each)
These are free-response assessments. You can not use your notes or practice problems. Any missed exam will not be allowed to be made up later. The purpose of the assignment is to give us a snapshot of the mastery of the unit material at that time. There will be five (5) exams over the semester.

Final Exam (Worth 20 points)
Comprehensive free response assessment that you can not use your notes or practice problems. If you do not attempt the Final Exam you will earn an F for the class even if enough points to pass has been earned. There will only be one assignment at the end of the semester.

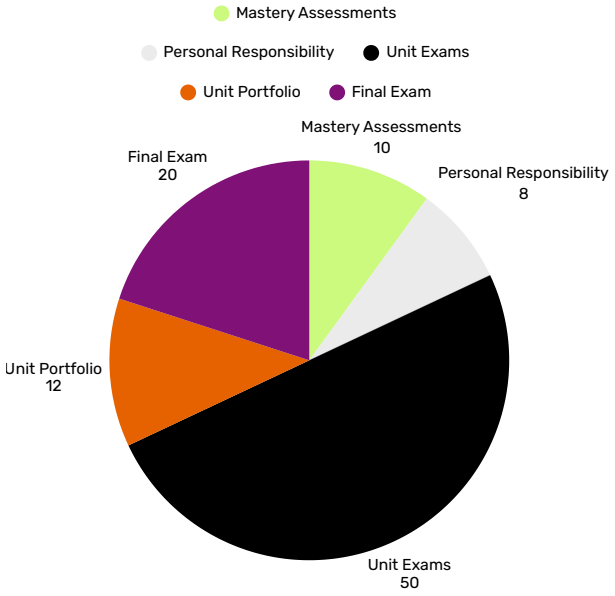
To find the relative (percentage) grade, divide the total points by the possible points and multiply by 100.

ASSIGNMENT WEIGHTS

The 100 point system is used for grading and will the highest grade reported at the end of the semester. All assignments will add up to 100 points.

89.5 and above earn an A
79.5 - 89.49 earn a B
69.5 - 79.49 earn a C
59.5 - 69.49 earn a D
59.49 and below earn an F

- Mastery Assessments: 10 points
- Personal Responsibility: 8 points
- Unit Portfolio: 12 points
- Unit Exams: 50 points
- Final Exam: 20 points



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Participation Expectations

Accountability

If you miss class or fall behind for any reason, all notes presented in class will be on the Class OneNote Notebook for you to access. Unfortunately, I cannot repeat material or change the schedule for the entire class. Late coursework is not accepted, nor will be allowed to be taken or submitted after the due date.

Communication

Communication is key. If you have an emergency, please let me know by email or phone ***immediately***. Letting me know the following day or later makes it difficult for me to discern and assess your situation. Therefore, this makes it harder to help and work with you.

Integrity

The focus of higher education is to foster learning and encourage critical thinking. While taking shortcuts to save time or to try and earn a grade may seem like a good idea, the results usually are lower scores and losing the opportunity to learn material.

Reasonable Flexibility

Extra credit points are available for all students. If you should miss an assignment deadline those extra credit points can "replace" the missed points.

EXPECTATIONS OF INSTRUCTOR

- Show up, as scheduled.
- Provide notice of any schedule changes.
- Keep Blackboard updated with grades and materials.
- Present the material in a way that the majority of the class can understand.
- Be available to those who need assistance outside of the classroom, by e-mail or in person, during office hours or scheduled appointment times.
- Maintain the course calendar and assignments.
- Uphold the policies of the college.
- Respect each student and provide the opportunity to discuss the material presented during the lecture period.
- Provide examinations based on the information discussed in course material.

WEB & EMAIL

Emails Should Include

- Your first and last name
- Your class name and section
- Your questions and/or comments in the body of the email (not subject line)

I Will

- Check my email regularly during weekdays before 7:00 pm
- Do my best to respond within 24 hours

I Will Not

- Always respond immediately on weekends or holidays
- Respond to parents or counselors. You are the student in an adult class and should communicate for yourself

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Success Roadmap

Take Notes in Class

Each section has lecture notes presented in class in the Class OneNote Notebook. If you should miss class, the lecture notes can be found in the Class OneNote Notebook.

Practice Math Skills

Each lecture has examples worked out and some examples for you to practice. Each lecture has practice problems for you to practice your math skills.

Days	Actions
Sunday	Prepare for class by gathering supplies and looking at the class calendar
Monday - Thursday	Attend class and practice skills covered in week's material
Friday- Saturday	Practice skills covered in week's material, submit assignments, or prepare for the next week

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- **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

ATTENDANCE 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.

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We Remember

by Edgar Dale

10% of what we read

20% of what we hear

30% of what we see

50% of what we see and hear

70% of what we say and write

90% of what we do

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Avoid distractions (cell phone, social media, games, television, or open tabs and windows on your device) when watching and working through lecture videos
- Use the resources (notes, extra videos on Blackboard, free tutoring through the college, each other, and myself) available to you
- Don't hesitate to ask for help and always communicate
- Be sure to complete the assigned work
- Read the feedback given to you on graded work to improve your skills
- Save all of your notes and work

MATHEMATICAL PRACTICES TO IMPROVE

1. Making sense of problems and persisting while solving them.
2. Engaging in productive struggle with mathematics problems.
3. Productively collaborate with others.
4. Communicate through mathematical writing.

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Student Resources

Class Resources

In our Blackboard course, there are a lot of resources to help us be successful.

- All notes written in class can be found in your Class OneNote Notebook which has a link provided in Blackboard for us to access after entering our SPC credentials.
- Under Additional Resources are study tips, prerequisite math rules, graph paper, and online resources.

Free SPC Tutoring

South Plains College provides free tutoring to students. The most current schedule can be found on the SPC Tutoring Website or this QR Code.

SPC Policies

South Plains College policies concerning diversity, disabilities, non-discrimination, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, and Campus Concealed Carry Statements can be found here on the SPC Policies Website or this QR Code.

South Plains College policies, return to campus plan, and protocols regarding COVID-19 can be found here on the SPC COVID-19 Policy Webpage.

The person who asks a question is a fool for five minutes, they who does not ask a question remains a fool forever.
- Chinese Proverb

I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have.
- Thomas Jefferson

Learning is never done without errors and defeat.
- Vladimir Lenin

However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at.
- Stephen Hawking

Your talents and abilities will improve over time, but for that, you have to start.
- Martin Luther King, Jr

REAL LIFE EMERGENCY HELP

Sometimes life happens and we need help. This is the reason the South Plains College Health and Wellness Center has provided a list of emergency resources. This list includes, but is not limited to community food assistance, help paying bills, and other free or reduced cost programs. To find this list, please click on the *Emergency Resources* tab, and click the linked here. The site is found at Health and Wellness Center or this QR Code.

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Applications Used

Gradescope

We will use Gradescope this term, which allows us to provide fast and accurate feedback on your work. Homework will be submitted through Gradescope, and homework and exam grades will be returned through Gradescope. As soon as grades are posted, you will be notified immediately so that you can log in and see your feedback. You may also submit regrade requests if you feel that there is a mistake in the grading.

You can use your phone's camera or another scanner to upload work to Gradescope. Download the Gradescope mobile app on the **App Store** or **Google Play** to use your phone's camera and follow the prompts. If you cannot scan your assignments for any reason, please get in touch with me to make alternative arrangements. All submissions to Gradescope must be clear, legible, and double-checked to ensure all answers are properly marked. You will receive an email confirmation once your assignment is successfully submitted; please retain this for your records.

Honorlock

Honorlock will proctor your exams this semester. Honorlock is an online proctoring service that allows you to take your exam from home. You **do not** need to create an account or schedule an appointment in advance. Honorlock is available 24/7, and all required is a computer, a working webcam/microphone, your ID, and a stable internet connection.

You will need Google Chrome and download the Honorlock Chrome Extension to get started.

When you are ready to complete your assessment, log into your LMS, go to your course, and click on your exam. Clicking "Launch Proctoring" will begin the Honorlock authentication process, where you will take a picture of yourself and show your ID. You may be prompted to complete a room scan during the authentication steps. This is a test taker authentication step in which you will be asked to perform a 360-degree scan of your environment with the computer or webcam to confirm the integrity of the testing environment. Honorlock will be recording your exam session through your webcam and microphone and recording your screen. Honorlock also has an integrity algorithm that can detect search-engine use, so please do not attempt to search for answers, even if it's on a secondary device.
Honorlock support is available 24/7/365. You may contact them through live chat on the support page or within the exam itself if you encounter any issues.

Blackboard

We will use Blackboard this term, which allows is our Learning Management System (LMS). It will house all of the course materials, resources, and grades. The gradebook will automatically give a zero for any assignment not graded by the due date. Do not worry if you submitted your assignment, I will change the grade once the assignment is graded.

Download the Blackboard mobile app on the **App Store** or **Google Play** to have mobile access to Blackboard.

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SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE
MATHEMATICS, ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Spring 2026 MATH-0332/1332-C003 Tentative Calendar

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Personal Responsibility	Quiz Due	Portfolio Due	Exam Given
1	Mon	12 Jan	• Class Introduction • Tips for Success in Math Classes • Integers, Decimals, and Fractions • Exponents, Order of Operations, Scientific Notation	Not due today	Sun, 18 Jan 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 3 Feb 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 3 Feb 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**13 Jan**					
	Wed	14 Jan		Thu, 15 Jan 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**15 Jan**					
	Fri	16 Jan					
2	Mon	19 Jan	**No Class – Martin Luther King, Jr Day**				
	Tue	**20 Jan**	• Solving Linear Equations • Applications of Linear Equations • Introduction to Polynomials	Tue, 20 Jan 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 25 Jan 11:30 pm **Blackboard**		
	Wed	21 Jan		Thu, 22 Jan 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**22 Jan**					
	Fri	23 Jan					
3	Mon	26 Jan	• Solving Quadratic Equations	Tue, 27 Jan 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 1 Feb 11:30 pm **Blackboard**		
	Tue	**27 Jan**					
	Wed	28 Jan	• The Coordinate System, Distance, and Midpoint • Intro to Lines and Slope	Thu, 29 Jan 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**29 Jan**					
	Fri	30 Jan					
4	Mon	2 Feb	Unit 1 Exam: Algebra, Part I	Not due today	Sun, 8 Feb 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 17 Feb 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 17 Feb 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**3 Feb**					
	Wed	4 Feb	• Equations of Lines • Functions, Graphs, and Models	Thu, 5 Feb 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**5 Feb**					
	Fri	6 Feb					

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Personal Responsibility	Quiz Due	Portfolio Due	Exam Given
5	Mon	9 Feb	• Systems of Linear Equations	Tue, 10 Feb 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 15 Feb 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 17 Feb 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 17 Feb 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**10 Feb**					
	Wed	11 Feb	• Measurement and Conversions • Ratios and Proportions	Thu, 12 Feb 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**12 Feb**					
	Fri	13 Feb					
6	Mon	16 Feb	Unit 2 Exam: Algebra Part II	Not due today	Sun, 22 Feb 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 3 Mar 9:30 am **In Class** Tue, 3 Mar 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 3 Mar 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**17 Feb**					
	Wed	18 Feb	• Making a Budget and Income Tax • Simple and Compound Interest	Thu, 19 Feb 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**19 Feb**					
	Fri	20 Feb					
7	Mon	23 Feb	• Loan Amortization and the Costs and Advantages of Home Ownership • Financial Investments	Tue, 24 Feb 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 1 Mar 11:30 pm **Blackboard**		
	Tue	**24 Feb**					
	Wed	25 Feb		Thu, 26 Feb 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**26 Feb**					
	Fri	27 Feb					
8	Mon	2 Mar	Unit 3 Exam: Consumer Math	Not due today	Sun, 8 Mar 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 31 Mar 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 31 Mar 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**3 Mar**					
	Wed	4 Mar	• Angles, Curves, and Polygons • Triangles: Similarity and the Pythagorean Theorem	Thu, 5 Mar 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**5 Mar**					
	Fri	6 Mar					

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Personal Responsibility	Quiz Due	Portfolio Due	Exam Given
9	Mon	9 Mar	• Perimeter, Circumference, and Area • 3-D Shapes, Surface Area and Volume	Tue, 10 Mar 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 15 Mar 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 31 Mar 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 31 Mar 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**10 Mar**					
	Wed	11 Mar		Thu, 12 Mar 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**12 Mar**					
	Fri	13 Mar					
No Class – Spring Break (16 March – 20 March)							
10	Mon	23 Mar	• Right Triangle Trigonometry	Tue, 24 Mar 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 29 Mar 11:30 pm **Blackboard**		
	Tue	**24 Mar**					
	Wed	25 Mar	• Sets, Subsets, Set Operations and Venn Diagrams	Thu, 26 Mar 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**26 Mar**					
	Fri	27 Mar					
11	Mon	30 Mar	Unit 4 Exam: Geometry	Not due today	Sun, 5 Apr 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Tue, 14 Apr 9:30 am **In Class**	Tue, 14 Apr 9:30 am **In Class**
	Tue	**31 Mar**					
	Wed	1 Apr	• Surveys and Cardinal Numbers • Counting by Systematic Listing	Thu, 2 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**2 Apr**					
	Fri	3 Apr					
12	Mon	6 Apr	• Using the Fundamental Counting Principle	Tue, 7 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 12 Apr 11:30 pm **Blackboard**		
	Tue	**7 Apr**					
	Wed	8 Apr	• Basic Probability Concepts	Thu, 9 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**9 Apr**					
	Fri	10 Apr					

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Personal Responsibility	Quiz Due	Portfolio Due	Exam Given
13	Mon	13 Apr	Unit 5 Exam: Sets and Counting	Not due today	Sun, 19 Apr 11:30 pm **Blackboard**	Thu, 7 May 8:00 am **In Class**	Thu, 7 May 8:00 am **In Class**
	Tue	**14 Apr**					
	Wed	15 Apr	• Mathematical Expectation	Thu, 16 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**16 Apr**					
	Fri	17 Apr					
14	Mon	20 Apr	• Visual Displays of Data • Measures of Central Tendency	Tue, 21 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**	Sun, 26 Apr 11:30 pm **Blackboard**		
	Tue	**21 Apr**					
	Wed	22 Apr		Thu, 23 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**23 Apr**					
	Fri	24 Apr					
15	Mon	27 Apr	• Measures of Spread • Question Session for Comprehensive Final Exam	Tue, 28 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**	Not due this week		
	Tue	**28 Apr**					
	Wed	29 Apr		Thu, 30 Apr 10:45 am **In Class**			
	Thu	**30 Apr**					
	Fri	1 May					
16	Mon	4 May	No Class – Finals Week Study for the Final Exam				
	Tue	5 May					
	Wed	6 May					
	Thu	**7 May**	**Final Exam** **8:00 am until 10:00 am** **Levelland Campus: AG105** **In Class**				
	Fri	8 May	**Semester Over – Graduation Day**				