

Course Syllabus
Math 1001 – Introduction to the Math Major
Dixie State College of Utah
Fall 2009

Professors:	Costel Ionita, PhD	Kathie Ott, MS
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Office Hours:		Mondays 11-3, Thursdays 11-12 and 1-4
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Course times: **Tues and Thurs from 12:00 – 12:50 pm in NIB 135**
CRN: 43997

Course description

Math 1001 is a First Year Experience® course designed to help students succeed in math courses, as well as other courses at Dixie State College. One of the main goals of the course is to help new freshmen and returning students make a successful transition to being a college student. Topics covered will include strategies for reading textbooks, writing papers, studying, taking exams, talking to your professors; information about campus resources such as the Financial Aid Office, Tutoring Center, Library, Advisement Office, and Disability Resource Center; learning about some of the career paths one can take in math, or with a math degree; discussing peer interactions and professional networking; navigating the registration process; and gaining an appreciation for non-academic activities on campus.

This class will be taught on Tuesdays by Dr. Ionita, who will teach about how to succeed in math classes, and careers in mathematics. Mrs. Ott will be teaching about how to succeed in college in general, and at Dixie College specifically.

Course objectives

At the end of this semester, you should:

- 1) Know your way around Dixie State College. This includes knowing:
 - where to find buildings and services that you may need on campus
 - what campus services are available to you
 - how to do things like add classes, drop classes, change your major, check your account balance, use your dmail, and so on
 - how to get involved in college life

- 2) Understand your major or area of study. This includes knowing:
 - why a college degree is valuable
 - what General Education is, and how to fulfill the GE requirements
 - what the course requirements are in your major
 - how to construct a graduation plan
 - what areas are in your major, and how it fits with other majors
 - what kinds of careers your major will prepare you for

3) Know some strategies for dealing with college life. This includes:

- managing your time
- avoiding being the victim of a crime
- balancing school and work
- recognizing and dealing with stress
- staying healthy
- dealing with financial issues
- networking with other people

4) Know how to succeed academically. This includes knowing how to:

- use a course syllabus
- read a college textbook
- talk to your professors
- take good notes
- study effectively
- form and use study groups
- recognize and deal with test anxiety
- take tests effectively
- avoid academic dishonesty
- engage in critical thinking
- take advantage of your learning style
- get involved in service learning

Required Materials

Student Success Handbook—given to you at the orientation meetings this summer, or at the bookstore when you bought your books. They are available for free, and may also be available at other locations on campus.

Grades

Your grade will be assigned based your attendance and participation in class discussions, short reading, writing, and other assignments which will be given regularly throughout the course, and a midterm exam and final exam. An individualized grade report will be given out after the midterm. You may also e-mail us at any time to ask about your grade.

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>points</u>	<u>% of grade</u>
Attendance	10 points each, 8 if you are late	20%
Participation	10 point each	20%
Assignments	variable	40%
Midterm and final exam	approx 100 points	20%

Attendance: Since this is a discussion course, your attendance will be vital, and there isn't any way to make up for a discussion you have missed. However, to allow for unforeseen circumstances, you may miss any two days without penalty. Roll will be taken at the beginning of the class, so make sure to come on time. If you are late, please let us know that you are here; however, you will then lose two attendance points. If you miss class, you are responsible to turn in assignments that were due that day, and to find out about new assignments.

Participation: Some class periods may begin with a discussion based on thought questions or a survey handed out the day before. Participation points may be earned by answering the thought questions in class or discussing your answers to the surveys and then turning them in. Other days may include learning activities that will involve your participation in class. If you are absent on the day of the lecture, you can receive partial credit for turning in the surveys or writing out answers to the thought questions on a piece of paper and turning them in within a week of your absence.

Assignments: Some of the lecture topics will conclude with a brief assignment which will help you to apply the concepts that have been discussed. In many cases, they will be assignments to do something and then write a one page response describing your experience. These assignments will be given out during class. They are due at the beginning of the next class period unless otherwise noted. Late assignments will be accepted with a 10% late penalty.

Midterm and final exam: To make sure that you are understanding the main principles of the course, a written midterm and final exam will be given. It will consist of short essay questions. You will be given a review sheet before the exam to help you prepare.

Letter grades will be assigned based on % of points earned on the scale shown below.

A	93.0 – 100%	C+	77.0 – 79.9%
A-	90.0 – 92.9%	C	73.0 - 76.9%
B+	87.0 – 89.9%	C-	70.0 – 72.9%
B	83.0 – 86.9%	D	50.0 – 69.9%
B-	80.0 – 82.9%	F	0 - 49.9%

A grade of “incomplete” will only be given in circumstances where a student has been doing well in the class but has a difficulty such as serious illness during the last week or two of the semester.

Other Useful Stuff

Dmail: Important class and college information will be sent to your Dmail account. This information includes your DSC bill, financial aid/scholarship notices, notification of dropped classes, reminders of important dates and events, and other information critical to your success in this class and at DSC. All DSC students are automatically assigned a Dmail account. If you don't know your user name and password, go to www.dixie.edu and select “Dmail,” for complete instructions. You will be held responsible for information sent to your Dmail email, so please check it often.

Remember that you are responsible for all material presented in class. The instructors reserve the right to make reasonable changes in the course syllabus. Any changes will be announced in class so, again, attendance is essential.

Important DSC dates to remember (for course dates, see schedule on the last page).

Mon, Aug 24	Classwork Starts
Wed, Aug 26	Last Day to Add Without a Signature
Mon, Aug 31	Drop fee begins (\$10 per class)
Mon, Sep 7	Labor Day
Tue, Sep 8	\$50 Late Registration/Payment Fee
Mon, Sep 14	Pell Grant Census
Mon, Sep 14	Last Day for Refund
Fri, Sep 18	Last Day to Add Classes
Wed, Oct 14	Mid-Term Grades Due
Sat, Oct 15	Semester Break
Mon, Oct 19	Last Day to Drop/Audit Classes
Fri, Nov 13	Last Day for Complete Withdrawal
Tue, Nov 17	Career Day
Thu, Nov 25	Thanksgiving Break
Fri, Dec 11	Classwork Ends
Fri, Dec 14	Final Exams

College resources: Several college resources are available to help you succeed. Check out the links for each one to get more information.

If you need help understanding the content of your courses, go to the Tutoring Center located in the Browning Learning Center, Room 105. There is a schedule of what courses have tutors at what times outside the door. You can also visit them online at <http://dsc.dixie.edu/tutoring/>

If you need help writing papers, go to the Writing Center in the Browning Learning Center, Room 105. You can also visit them online at http://new.dixie.edu/english/dsc_writing_center.php

If you need to use a computer to do schoolwork on campus, go to the Computer Center in the Smith Computer Center or the Library basement.

If you are assigned to take a test in the Testing Center, go to the Browning Learning Center on the upper floor. You can get information on their website at <http://new.dixie.edu/testing/>

The Library has all kinds of information and resources. Visit the Val Browning Library or go to the library website at <http://library.dixie.edu/>

Classroom expectations: It is the responsibility of an instructor to manage the classroom environment to ensure a good learning climate for all students. This means not talking when the teacher is talking, following instructions, and speaking and acting respectfully to the professor and fellow students. If your behavior is disruptive, we will first let you know verbally that you are behaving inappropriately. If it continues, we will send you written notice that your behavior must change. As a last resort, we will drop you from the class. For more details, please see the disruptive behavior policy at: <http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/policy/sec3/334.html>

College approved absences: Dixie College Policy explains in detail what needs to happen if you anticipate being absent from class because of a college-sponsored activity (athletic events, club activities, field trips for other classes, etc). Please read this information and follow the instructions carefully! The policy can be found at: <http://www.dixie.edu/humanres/policy/sec5/523.html>

Academic honesty: We believe that most students are honest, and we don't want to punish everyone for the few that aren't. However, we will not tolerate cheating, and if we discover that it has occurred, a zero grade will be given for that assignment or exam. Repeated or aggravated offenses will result in failing the course.

Any time you take credit for work you did not do, you are cheating. This includes getting the answers to study questions from someone else, copying information from a library or internet source and presenting it as if it were your own words (plagiarism), looking at someone else's answers on an exam, and asking someone who has already taken a test about what questions it contains.

We have tried to design assignments and exams to minimize the temptation to cheat, but it is not our job to prevent you from cheating. If you are successful, it doesn't mean that you "beat the system." It means you violated the student code of conduct and forfeited your integrity, whether or not you are caught. You will pay the price, sooner or later. (See DSC Policy 34.1.1-4).

Disability Accommodations: If you are a student with a medical, psychological or a learning disability and requesting reasonable academic accommodations due to this disability, you must provide an official request of accommodation to your professor(s) from the Disability Resource Center within the first two weeks of the beginning of classes. Students are to contact the center on the main campus to follow through with, and receive assistance in the documentation process to determine the appropriate accommodations related to their disability. You may call (435) 652-7516 for an appointment and further information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Our office is located in the Student Services Center, Room #201 of the Edith Whitehead Building.

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Class Schedule SCI 1001

Tu, Aug 25	Introduction	Th, Aug 27	Finding your Way Dixie College Basics
Tu, Sep 1	How to Use a Math Textbook	Th, Sep 3	Transition from High School to College
Tu, Sep 8	How to Study Math	Th, Sep 10	What's in the Box— Intro to Study Skills
Tu, Sep 15	How to Take a Math Test	Th, Sep 17	Staying Safe on Campus Getting Involved in College Life
Tu, Sep 22	100 Jobs with a Mathematics Degree	Th, Sep 24	Finding Help, Finding Fun
Tu, Sep 29	History of Mathematics	Th, Oct 1	Dealing with Finances—On and Off Campus
Tu, Oct 6	Math Anxiety	Th, Oct 8	Time Management
Tu, Oct 13	Calculators, Computers, and Pencils	Th, Oct 15	FALL RECESS—No Class
Tu, Oct 20	How to Use Office Hours	Th, Oct 22	Dealing With Stress
Tu, Oct 27	Would You Like to be a Math Tutor?	Th, Oct 29	Staying Healthy
Tu, Nov 3	How Math is Used in Sciences, Arts, Music, Etc.	Th, Nov 5	TBA
Tu, Nov 10	TBA	Th, Nov 12	TBA
Tu, Nov 17	CAREER DAY—No Class	Th, Nov 19	TBA
Tu, Nov 24	TBA	Th, Nov 26	THANKSGIVING BREAK
Tu, Dec 1	TBA	Th, Dec 3	Becoming a Successful Student Goals for Next Semester
Tu, Dec 8	TBA	Th, Dec 10	Review for Final Exam
		Th, Dec 17	11a.m.-1p.m. Final Exam