



MAT 103: Fall 2022 Syllabus

Instructor

Mr. Chris Higgins, Associate Lecturer Mathematics and Mathematics Education.

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I am a math teacher at South Carolina Connections Academy during regular business hours.

Course Description

In this course, we will focus on mathematics that is applicable to your everyday life. Topics include mental calculations, ratios, percentages, and proportions, proper use of technology such as calculators and spreadsheets, understanding quantitative information in the media, financial literacy, measurement, and the ways in which mathematics and algorithms affect society. The course will emphasize real-world applications and communicating mathematical and quantitative information effectively.

Much content will be delivered via readings and videos assigned for primary source material in the course.

Learning Objectives

Generally speaking, in this course, you will learn to

1. Explain how mathematics and algorithms are used/can be used in the modern world
2. Synthesize quantitative information in various forms and contexts
3. Communicate mathematical ideas and processes with clarity, completeness, and correctness

4. Use data and quantitative information to make persuasive arguments supporting a viewpoint or decision

A much more detailed outline of the course learning objectives organized by the units that students will encounter is given at the end of this document in the “Additional Policies and Information” section.

Classroom Model

Online Format

This course will be completed entirely online. There is an element of flexibility as students can work at any time, day or night. However, there are going to be set due dates with penalties if due dates are not met.

Absentee Policy

Absenteeism is different in an asynchronous course. Not completing scheduled assignments and assessments are the markers of being absent. Roster verification is dependent on you completing the first assignments on time. If not done so you may be removed from the course.

Course Schedule

TBD. The calendar will be available upon starting the course in Fall 2022.

Communication

Class announcements will be made through the Coker email system and Brightspace. It is the responsibility of the student to check Brightspace and their email daily for important updates.

Any student looking for help and assistance with the material should email the instructor at chiggins@coker.edu . I work as a virtual school teacher during the day which means I do not typically respond to email until the late afternoon or evenings. Please allow 24 hours for a response before following up again. Please do not leave questions until the last minute. A message Sunday will be too late for the current work to be completed.

Required Materials

Lumen Learning

We will be using Brightspace as the Learning Management System but the course itself is through Lumen Learning.

Textbook

We will be using the Lumen Learning, open-source textbook [Mathematics for the Liberal Arts](#) by Lumen Learning, based on Math in Society Bay David Lippman. ISBN 978-1-64087-030-7

Calculator

You are allowed the use of a calculator. A graphing calculator such as TI-84, TI -84 Plus, TI-85, and similar are allowed but not required. I recommend becoming familiar with desmos.com. It has a scientific and graphing calculator which is a little more user-friendly.

Grading

Grading will follow the Coker Standard 90%-100% A, 80%-89% B, 70%-79% C, 60%-69% D and 59% below F.

Categories for assignments will fall into the following weight groups: Assignments Discussion , Unit Assessments , and Final Exam

*A 10% deduction will be made for all items submitted after the due date. Requests are made through **Lumen Learning** but notification to me via Gmail will be needed as well.

Support

Your instructor (me)

I will say this repeatedly throughout this course. I am a resource for you. Specifically, I am a resource for helping you learn math. Generally, I am a resource to help you find other resources. There are a number of ways to get in touch with me, but probably the best way would be by email. Still, I've gone ahead and listed all my professional contact info here:

- Phone: (812) 989-2669 (Emergency Only)
- E-mail: chiggins@coker.edu

I do not have office hours as I am an adjunct but may be available for consultation by scheduling through Gmail.