



## **EAST TEXAS A&M**

# **MATH 380 Math History for Middle School Math Majors**

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Laura Beene

Office Hours: MW 2 - 3 pm, TR 11-12:30 pm

University Email Address: [laura.beene@etamu.edu](mailto:laura.beene@etamu.edu)

Office Location: EDN 103

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: 24 hours

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook: To be provided in a PDF format: MATHEMATICS HISTORY FOR MATH 380 2014 Edition by Burton and Anderson. ISBN 978308255873. The entire text, except for selected parts of Chapter 1 and 13 will be covered.

**Supplies Needed:** Students will need a three-ring binder or folder for notes and handouts. You may also want a ruler, stapler, and colored pencils. **Please use ONLY pencil on all work that is turned in.**

### **Course Description**

A survey of the history of mathematics. Attention will be given to the origin, development and importance of mathematical ideas. **Prerequisites: "C" or better in MATH 301**

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of Math 380, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate in writing and problem solving an awareness of how certain mathematical ideas developed and why they are important.
- Recognize, analyze, describe, and represent data in various historical forms.
- Demonstrate problem solving ability that includes but is not limited to knowledge of number systems, geometry, and algebra.
- Make connections between topics from the course and applications to teaching mathematics.
- Demonstrate historical computation techniques
- Judiciously use appropriate technology to achieve these outcomes

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

# COURSE REQUIREMENTS

## Minimal Technical Skills Needed

A TI-83 or TI-84 calculator is highly recommended for this class. Students need to check their e-mail regularly with the address that they have provided to the instructor for class announcement. Access of computer with internet and D2L access, along with MS office software and a printer will be needed for some of the class projects.

## Instructional Methods

Class time will be spent in lecture, demonstration and models, and hands-on activities in small and/or large group settings. Several types of manipulative will be demonstrated and used to solve problems. Cooperative learning, inquiry learning, and the use of technology will be incorporated into this class. All work should be completed in pencil.

## Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Students are encouraged to study and work in groups. In addition, the free tutoring on campus and from online is also highly recommended. **Math Skills Center** is located on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Library, is open **Mon & Wed: 10am – 8pm; Tues & Thurs 10am – 6pm; & Fri 10am – 2pm.** The **Mach III/TRIO Program** is available for students who qualify for additional resources, such as private tutoring. In order to qualify, students must meet certain conditions, such as being a first-generation college student. For more information, contact Ronnie Brooks at 903-886-5833 or in the Halladay Student Services building, Room 301.

## GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%      B = 80%-89%      C = 70%-79%      D = 60%-69%      F = 59% or Below

## Assessments

Projects/Reflections	20%
Daily Work (Homework and Quizzes)	15%
Exams	40%
Comprehensive Final Exam	25%

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students need to **check their MyLeo e-mail regularly** for class announcements.

**A scanner or a cell phone with a free scan app** (CamScanner or Adobe Scan is recommended) that allows you to scan work out steps to a scan pdf file is required. **Access to a printer** will be helpful if you like to print out class handouts. A basic scientific calculator would be helpful but not necessary for the course.

### **MyLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS):**

**D2L in MyLeo:** All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

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## Access and Navigation in MyLeo/D2L

**MyLeo Support:** You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into your course in D2L. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@etamu.edu](mailto:helpdesk@etamu.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programing, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel).

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

### Interaction with Instructor Statement

Students will be expected to interact with the instructor(s) in class, during office hours or via electronic means in an appropriate manner. All instructor contact information is listed on this syllabus and should be used. Please use email to facilitate a quick response.

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures/Policies

#### **Attendance:**

Attendance will be taken promptly at the start time of each class. Furthermore, students must be actively participating in class to receive credit for attendance that day. If you are part of an athletic or scholastic team or other group and must miss class, you may be excused only if the absence is listed as an excused absence by the university. You will be expected to communicate this absence to me at least one week beforehand. If a student misses class, please get the notes from another student and see me during office hours with any questions.

**Excessive Absences:** \*\*\* Students who are absent more than 6 times, for whatever reason, are subject to the instructor dropping them from the course or receiving a failing grade from this class.\*\*\* Six absences in this course constitutes missing 20% of the course, which is a very large fraction of material for a student to miss. Any student who is close to this number of absences should come to the instructor before they accumulate six absences in the course. I will NOT automatically drop students from the course. Therefore, if students intend to drop the course, students will need to follow the drop procedures of the school. If I intend to drop students from the

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course, students will receive an email from me at the address students have given me on my student information sheet.

#### **Homework:**

Homework will be assigned most class periods. **It is extremely important for students to work all assignments in order to be prepared for the exams.** Students can work together with classmates when trying to figure out how to do the problems. Please include classmate(s)' name(s) on the top of students' paper if students have worked with another students for an assignment. Homework assignments will be turned in through D2L. **Late work is not typically accepted and will be graded with reduced credits. Assignments that are turned in a week passed the due date will receive a zero for the grade.**

#### **Quizzes:**

Both individual and group quizzes will be given in class and the grade will be counted toward students' daily grade. Since regular attendance is expected, **NO make-up quizzes will be given.** This class covers a variety of important topics that there is not a "good" time to miss a class. Each quiz will be over material to be emphasized on exams. Quizzes will average into students' daily grade.

#### **Activities and Projects:**

Activities or projects will be assigned for students to work on outside of class periodically. These activities or projects will vary in their scope and should be completed neatly and punctually. An Activity or project is typically counted as twice a homework grade. Please follow the instructions for each activity or project closely and turn in quality work that reflects students' future profession as a teacher.

#### **Exams:**

There will be two scheduled exams before a comprehensive final exam and will consist of a variety of problems and short answer questions. Partial credit may be given on exams IF all work is neatly shown with clear steps. When pictures are drawn to answer a question, figures need to be clearly labeled and easily understood. **CELL PHONES AND OTHER SUCH DEVICES MUST BE TURNED OFF AND STORED OUT OF THE STUDENT'S REACH DURING AN EXAM.** All exams must be completed in pencil.

**\*I do not give any make-up exams unless pre-arranged and accompanied by a documented University-excused absence.** Students can replace the lowest exam grade with their grade on the corresponding portion of the final exam, provided the grade on that section of the final exam is higher.

\* University Authorized Excuses: 1) Participation in a required/authorized university activity; 2) Verified illness; 3) Death in a student's immediate family; 4) Obligation of a student at legal proceedings in fulfilling responsibility as a citizen; and others determined by individual faculty to be excusable (e.g., elective University activities, etc.)

Tentative Testing Schedule: Exam #1: week of 3/2, Exam #2: 4/23

#### **Final Exam:**

The final exam will be a comprehensive exam. The final exam will be given as per the university schedule **Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1:15 – 3:15 pm**

**\* There are no make-up exams for the final exam! \***

#### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

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## **University Specific Procedures**

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

### **ETAMU Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

### **Academic Integrity**

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

### **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If students have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, East Texas A&M University, Waters Library- Room 162, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, Email: [StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@etamu.edu)  
Website: [Student Disability Services | East Texas A&M University, ETAMU](#)

### **Nondiscrimination Notice**

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

### **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and East Texas A&M Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

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Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

### COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week	Date	Topic
1	1/12	Syllabus, Chapter 1
2	1/19	Chapter 1, 2
3	1/26	Chapter 3
4	2/2	Chapter 4
5	2/9	Chapter 4 and 5
6	2/16	Chapter 5
7	2/23	Chapter 6
8	3/2	Review, Exam #1
	3/9-3/13	<b>Spring Break</b>
9	3/16	Chapter 6 and 7
10	3/23	Chapter 8
11	3/30	Chapter 10
12	4/6	Chapter 11, 12, and 13
13	4/13	Semester Projects
14	4/20	Review, Exam #2
15	4/27	Final Exam Review
16	5/5	Final Exam 1:15 – 3:15 pm

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