



East Texas A & M University

Course Syllabus

Math 1351.8AE/8WE – Topics in Mathematics for Elementary Teachers II
Semester: Spring 2026 from Jan. 12 to May 8 (M/W 9:45 am to 11:00 am)

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Jessica Rivera

Office Location: Ed North 113C

Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 12:00-1:30 pm

Wednesday 1:00-3:00 pm

University Email Address: Jessica.Rivera@etamu.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: Within 24 hours M-F, 48 hours over weekends or holidays

COURSE INFORMATION

Material Required: A variety of supplemental materials will be provided to students throughout this semester. Students will need a **three-ring binder** to keep and organize course materials, notes, and graded work. **Notebook will be checked each exam time.** Students will also need a **set of math manipulatives to use at home, basic calculator, a ruler (with metric and standard measurement), protractor, scissors, stapler, and colored pencils.** All exams must be completed in pencil.

Textbook (Optional): Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers (7th Edition) by Bassarear and Moss (ISBN: 9781337629966). We will discuss selected chapters from the textbook.

Course Description

This course is intended to build or reinforce a foundation in fundamental mathematics concepts and skills. It includes the conceptual development of the following: sets, functions, numeration systems, number theory, and properties of the various number systems with an emphasis on problem solving and critical thinking.

Prerequisite: Math 1350 with a grade of C or better.

As a future teacher, students must be able to explain mathematics to one's students, and not just teach rote manipulations of numbers and symbols. Students should know and understand more mathematics than what they teach! The goal of this course is beyond teaching simple mathematical computations and to assist students in developing an understanding of mathematics.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of Math 1351, students will be able to

- Review, demonstrate, illustrate, & communicate concepts of fractions & decimals using manipulative & various models
- Demonstrate and illustrate ways to solve ratio, proportion, and percentage problems
- Interpret and construct statistical graphs. Use proper terminologies & strategies to solve problems in the topics of statistics & probabilities

Mission for College of Science and Engineering: Innovation and Discovery
Mission for the Department of Mathematics: Discovering the Keys to Success

- Identify basic geometry shapes and angles. Recognize type of transformational geometry. Identify the correct geometric formula to calculate two and three-dimensional measurements of various figures and solids. Perform measurements.
- Develop deeper understanding of mathematics thinking and connect ideas between mathematical concepts of the above topics.
- Equip with various strategies and become proficient in solving problems

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instruction: Instruction will include lectures, demonstration and models, and hands-on activities in small and/or large group settings. Several types of manipulatives will be demonstrated and used to solve problems. Cooperative Learning, inquiry learning, and the use of technology will be incorporated into this class. **All turned in work should be completed in pencil, please.**

*****Minimum Competency Requirement***:** Due to the important role fractions and decimals play in a child's mathematical career, this course includes a minimum competency requirement over the material on the first exam (fractions and decimals). All students in this course must achieve a grade of 75 or higher on the first exam to receive a passing grade (C or higher) in the course. If the mastery level of 75% is not achieved on the first exam, a student will have one chance to re-test the material outside class to pass it. If 75% competency is still not achieved, the last chance that a student will have been to make 75% or higher on the part of final exam over fractions and decimals. Students will receive a failing grade of this class if he/she cannot demonstrate mastery (75% or higher) on the materials over fractions and decimals either on the first exam, the re-test, or the final exam.

Attendance: **Attendance will be taken at each class.** Students need to actively participate in class to receive credits. Every class period will be covering new material that students will be responsible for—even in the event of absence!! It is expected that students will follow the guidelines set forth by the Class Attendance Policy in the current Undergraduate Catalogue. If students miss a class, please get notes from classmates, and come see me for questions during office hours.

If students represent the university on an athletic team, departmental team, scholastic team, choir, or other group and must miss class, notify me in writing with the appropriate documentation within one week of the absence in order not to be counted absent. Arrangements for make-up work will be made at that time.

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

***** The last day to drop a class this semester is: March 27, 2026. *****

Quizzes: Quizzes will be given in class, and the grade will be counted toward students' daily grade. Since regular attendance is expected, **in general, 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.

Homework: Homework will be assigned most class periods. **It is extremely important for students to work on all assignments in order to be prepared for the exams.** In general, students should work on these

assignments individually. In the occasion if you work together with classmates on an assignment, then you need to include the classmate(s)' name(s) on the top of the turn in paper to let the teacher knows that you have worked together for an assignment. **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.**

Binder: All course materials, notes, activities, assignments, projects, and reflections should be organized in a 3-ring binder. Binder will be picked up for grading each time when students take an exam.

Activities & Projects: Activities or projects will be assigned for students to work on outside of class periodically. These activities or projects will vary in 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 are three scheduled exams and a required comprehensive final exam. **Face-to-Face testing is required for this face-to-face class. In general, students will take exams in class with instructors. A make-up exam may only be arranged if it is a documented excused absence. Make-up exams will be taken with the instructor or in an approved testing center. All make-up exams need to be taken before the graded exams are returned to other students.**

Exams 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. Explanations should be explicit and understandable to the audience given. Items should NOT need interpretation if full credit is to be given.

Dates of exams are listed on the last page of this syllabus.

Replacing a Low Test Grade: In general, no make-up exams will be given without prior notice of a university excused absence*. At times throughout the semester, emergency situations may arise that affect a student's performance on an exam or even prevent a student from attending on an exam day. 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. This provision will only be applied to ONE exam, so students should make every effort to be present and well-prepared for all exams.

TENTATIVE Exam Schedule (please see weekly schedule on last page)

Required Final Exam: The final exam is required and will be a departmental, comprehensive exam. Final exam will take place at a special **time to be announced.**

GRADING

Grading:

Attendance, Participation, & Quizzes	5 %
Homework, Activities, & Projects	20 %
Exams	50 %
<u>Comprehensive Final Exam</u>	<u>25 %</u>
Total	100 %

Grade: A = 90-100, B = 80-89.0, C = 70-79.9, D = 60-69.9, F = 59.9 or below

* 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.)

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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

Access to a **computer**, the **internet**, **MyLeo**, **D2L**, and **MyLab** will be needed for online homework assignments and daily work.

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 would like to print out class handouts.

The **graphing calculator of TI 83/TI 84** or equivalent will be highly recommended. Calculators other than Texas Instruments calculators may be used but classroom instruction on calculators will be given for TI equipment only. ****Note:** Calculators that solve problems for students, including but not limited to TI-Nspire, TI 89 or higher, Casio Prizm, Casio Touch or higher are **NOT** allowed to be used for this class. **** Students are also required to clear the memory of graphing calculators before and after each exam.**

Calculator Loan Program: The Mathematics Department has set up a calculator loan program to support students. Students can borrow a calculator for a semester with a fee (\$10 to \$15 for TI-83/84). It is on a first-come, first-served basis.

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

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.

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 campus computer lab, etc.

Communication and Support: If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor.

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>

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement: It is important that students are actively engaged in class activities. Questions are welcome in the classroom. Students can schedule with the instructor for extra help outside the classroom during office hours.

Student Health Services are located at Henderson Hall (Corner of Lee St. and Monroe St.). It offers health care to the student body of East Texas A&M University. It provides primary health care services including treatment of illness, injury, and women's health. **Tel:** (903) 886-5853.

The University Police Department is located at Henderson Hall. For Emergency, please call: 911
For non-emergency, please call: 903.886.5868

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Getting Help Outside of Office Hours:

Free tutoring is available for students who need help with their math courses.

The **Math Skills Center** offers Math tutoring, and their location and hours can be found here <https://www.etamu.edu/mathservices>.

The **Academic Success Center** offers tutoring in the library, as well as Supplemental Instruction. Their hours can be found on the university web site. Also, each student has tutoring hours available through the online tutoring service, tutor.com. Additional details can be found here: <https://www.etamu.edu/undergraduate-tutoring/>.

Online Tutoring: Each student receives 3 free hours from <https://leo.tutor.com/auth/login> . Use your **MyLeo Log in and Password to access this**. You can contact the instructor if you need additional free tutoring hours.

In addition, **Mach III/TRIO Services**, located in the Halladay Student Services building, Room 300, is available to students who meet certain criteria, such as being a first-generation college student, etc. Contact TRIO at 903-886-5833.

Academic Integrity: In order to ensure fairness and high academic standards, any actions which violate the principles of academic integrity through dishonesty or cheating are given serious consideration. In order to understand what constitutes a violation of academic integrity and the consequences of such behavior, the university's policies may be reviewed at:

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

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

In particular, awareness of the following definitions is essential in order to know what represents academic dishonesty (pages 6 – 7):

“Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise. Unauthorized materials may include anything or anyone that gives a student assistance and has not been specifically approved in advance by the instructor.”

“Complicity: Intentionally or knowingly helping, or an attempting to help, another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.”

“Plagiarism: The appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit.”

Furthermore, cheating in this course is defined as the following:

- Giving or receiving answers during an exam or quiz.
- Viewing the exam or quiz answers of nearby classmates.
- Having notes/practice work available during quizzes or tests.
- Possession or access to test items before the test is given.
- Deception in getting an excused absence to obtain an undeserved opportunity to make-up work.
- Use of cell phones or text messaging technology during exams or quizzes (**such as iPods, iWatch, etc.**). **IF ONE OF THESE DEVICES IS AVAILABLE, IN ANY WAY, DURING AN**

EXAM OR QUIZ, THE STUDENT WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROCEED WITH THE EXAM OR QUIZ AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO PENALTIES ON THEIR GRADE.

- Improper citations in written works or using another person's ideas and words as students own without giving proper credit.
- **Any** method, no matter how well rationalized or accepted, which improves a person's grade by any means other than study and skillful performances on exams and/or other assignments.

While the majority of students are honest in doing their schoolwork, due to recent cheating events, action must be taken to protect the academic integrity of classrooms. **There is a NO TOLERANCE policy for cheating, and if a student is caught cheating, the event is subject to reporting and placement on the student's academic record. No grade will be received for any assignments for which cheating occurs.**

In summary, students found guilty of an act of academic dishonesty in this course will be subject to the disciplinary actions listed in the university policies. This includes several possible penalties depending on the severity and number of the incidents, which will be considered when specifying disciplinary actions.

Classroom Behavior: Appropriate classroom behavior is required to attend this class. All people will be treated with respect and talking that disrupting the class is not allowed. If disruptions occur during class time, a student will be asked to leave class and will earn a zero on any applicable grades for that class period. Serial disruptors will be asked to withdraw from this class.

Early Intervention for First Year Students: Early intervention for freshmen is designed to communicate the University's interest in their success and a willingness to participate fully to help students accomplish their academic objectives. Grades for students in freshmen level classes will be reported to the Registrar's Office at the end of the fifth week of class during the fall and spring semesters. The Registrar's Office will report grades to students, Advising Services, Academic Departments (faculty advisors) and mentors. This procedure will allow students to be knowledgeable about their academic progress early in the semester. The university, through Advising Services, faculty advisors and mentors, will take steps to assist students who may be experiencing difficulty focusing on improvement and course completion. Grade reports will be mailed by the end of the sixth week of the fall or spring semesters.

Student Conduct: *** "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct). Rude and/or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. No electronic devices (except calculators) are allowed during class time. **Cell phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices are to be put away during in-person class time and exams.** *** The use of vapor/e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff and chewing tobacco are prohibited inside classrooms and university buildings.

The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook <https://www.etamu.edu/student-code-of-conduct/> 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>.

Attendance: For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure [13.99.99.R0.01](https://etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx). <https://etamu.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

ADA Statement, Students with Disabilities: 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

Website: [Student Disability Services | East Texas A&M University, ETAMU](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice: This statement presents the University's commitment to a safe, accepting environment for all students regardless of sexual orientation, gender identification, or gender expression: ETAMU 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 Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<https://etamu.edu/aboutus/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all ETAMU campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M University Supports Students' Mental Health - Counseling Services: The Counseling Center, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, 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 <https://www.etamu.edu/counseling-center/>.

AI Use Policy: East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course. Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism). Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed. In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

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.

***** By Remaining Enrolled In This Course, All Students Agree to Abide by the Policies of this class, As Stated in the Syllabus *****

***** Course Outline is on the last page of this syllabus. *****

Tentative Schedule (Math 1351 - M/W Classes)

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.

Week 1 (Jan. 12 - 16) Syllabus & Review the Introduction of Fractions, Use Fraction Sense, & Review the Use Models and Manipulative for fractions

Week 2 (Jan. 19 - 23) MLK Holiday, Review the Use of Models and Strategies for Operation of Fractions

Week 3 (Jan. 26 - 30) Review Problem Solving with Fractions and the Introduction of Decimal Numbers

Week 4 (Feb. 2 – 6) Operations of Decimals using Models and Explain Why Methods Work, Some Geometry terms & definition of angles

Week 5 (Feb. 9 - 13) Review Exam 1 & **Exam 1(Competency Exam) Fractions & Decimals**

Week 6 (Feb. 16 - 20) Define Ratio and Proportion; Use Manipulative to demonstrate Ratio; Problem Solving with Ratio and Proportion

Week 7 (Feb. 23 - 27) Define Percentage; Use Model to Demonstrate Percentage; Demonstrate how Percentage relates to Decimal Numbers and Fractions; Use Mental Math to Solve Percentage Problems

Week 8 (March 2 - 6) Problem Solving with Percentage; Problem Solving of Probabilities; Define Selected Geometry Terms and be able to Identify and Illustrate them

***** (March 9 - 13) Spring Break*****

Week 9 (March 16 – 20) Define various Shapes, identify their properties, and be able to Construct them; identify Properties of Angles.

Week 10 (March 23 - 27) Exam 2 Review; **Exam 2: Ratio, Proportion, Percentage, Some Geometry, and Probability**

Week 11 (March 30 – April 3) Interpret Statistical Charts and Graphs to Solve Problems, Using Given Data, Construct Pictographs, Bar Graphs, Line Graphs, Pie Charts, Line Plots, Stem and Leaf Plots, Frequency Tables, Histograms, and Box-and-Whisker Plots

Week 12 (April 6 - 10) Construct more Statistical graphs. Define more Selected Geometry Terms and be able to Identify and Illustrate them; Perform Measurements for Length and Angles; Convert Measurements to their Equivalents

Week 13 (April 13 - 17) Find Degrees of Selected Angles Using Properties of Angles; define various Shapes, identify their properties, be able to Construct them; Find Area and Perimeter for Various Shapes; Perform Transformation and Tessellation

Week 14 (April 20 - 24) Review Exam 3; **Exam 3: Statistics and Geometry**

Week 15 (April 27 – May 1) Review for Final Exam

Week 16 Note Special Time!

***** By Remaining Enrolled In This Course, All Students Agree to Abide by the Policies of this class, As Stated in the Syllabus *****