

**University of West Georgia**  
MATH 1001: Quantitative Skills and Reasoning  
Spring 2015  
Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Dr. Veena Paliwal  
**Office:** 318 Boyd Building  
**Class Location:** 303 Boyd Building  
**Office Hours:** T/R 10:00-11:00am, 12:30-2:00; W: 11:00-1:00 (by appointment)

**E-mail:** vpaliwal@westga.edu  
**Phone:** (678) 839-4128  
**Class Meeting:** T/R 2:00–3:20 p.m.

**University Policy:**

Please carefully read and review the important information at the following link: [http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common\\_Language\\_for\\_Course\\_Syllabi.pdf](http://www.westga.edu/assetsDept/vpaa/Common_Language_for_Course_Syllabi.pdf). This link contains material pertaining to your rights and responsibilities as a student in this class. Because these statements are updated as federal, state, university, and accreditation standards change, please carefully review the information each semester.

**Course Description:**

This course is for students needing practical, comprehensive instruction, with a focus on life applications, college level study abilities, and clear understanding of mathematics for additional coursework, careers and everyday living.

**Catalog Description:**

This course is an alternative in Area A of the Core Curriculum and is not intended to supply sufficient algebraic background for students who intend to take Precalculus or the Calculus sequence for mathematics and science majors. This course places quantitative skills and reasoning in the context of experiences that students will be likely to encounter. The course emphasizes processing information in context from a variety of representations, of both the information and the processing, and understanding which conclusions can be reasonably determined.

**Required Textbook:**

Blitzer, R. (2011). *Thinking mathematically* (6th ed.). Boston, MA: Pearson Addison-Wesley.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

The students should be able to do the following:

- Strengthen their understanding of mathematical ideas.
- Use appropriate mathematical vocabulary, language, symbols, etc.
- Apply mathematical methods and use mathematical models to solve authentic problems.
- Reason quantitatively and employ quantitative skills to critique mathematical arguments.
- Demonstrate their conceptual understandings of mathematical ideas through writing.
- Understand mathematics literacy and the implications associated with it.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the pervasiveness of mathematics in college, career fields, and everyday life.

**Evaluations and Grading Procedures:**

**Homework and quizzes (20%):** There will be homework assignments and in-class quizzes. Group homework assignment will be given at the end of a class and will be due at the next meeting. **NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Quizzes will be pop-up quizzes given in the last 15 minutes of the class and will be announced on a particular day itself. It is therefore important to attend the class every day. Most of the times the quizzes will be based on the material covered in the class that day.

**Class presentation (10%):** I really want each student to come and share their ideas about mathematics learning with rest of the class. Therefore, I want each group to do a presentation (15-20 minutes) in the last week of the class. Your grade will be based on my evaluation and other groups' evaluation of your groups' presentation.

**Exams (45%):** There will be 3 one-hour exams, and each exam will be announced at least one (1) week prior to the exam date. Unexcused absences from an exam will result in a grade of zero (0) for that exam.

**Final Exam (25% of the grade):** A comprehensive final exam will be given during Finals Week.

Letter grades will be assigned by the following scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Below 60%	E

**Attendance Policy:**

You will be allowed ONE unexcused absence. You will be allowed ONE additional absences with a documented excuse that was beyond your control (doctor said so, car accident, etc.) Poor planning and poor judgment, which result in missing class, do not count as excused. For every absence beyond those mentioned above, your overall course grade will be lowered by 5%. Students are expected to attend class and complete all work when assigned. Students are responsible for the topics covered and assignments due whether present or not. **"I was not here"** is **NOT** a valid excuse. **You will be responsible for signing the attendance sheet during each class period.**

**Make-up policy:**

There will be NO make-ups for HW assignments or quizzes, since some will be dropped. No make-up exam will be allowed.

**Extra-credit policy:**

Please note that NO extra credit will be given! Points can be earned only as stated above.

**Class Rules:**

You are to turn off your cellular phone during the class. You are not allowed to use your phone as a calculator. Please respect your instructor and other students in the class. No talking or any distracting behavior. If you fall asleep in class, you will be asked to leave.

**University policies:** Please refer to university's policy at [http:// tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies](http://tinyurl.com/UWGSyllabusPolicies)

**Meeting with:** Meeting with the instructor can be beneficial and is encouraged. The meeting should occur during the  
**Instructor** office hours, whenever possible. If these hours conflict with a student's schedule, then appointments should be made.

**Math Tutoring Center:** Please use the tutoring center at Boyd 205 You can just walk in and get help.

**This is a tentative schedule of assignments and topics to be covered in class sessions. Changes will be made as needed. Once we finish a section, we will immediately move along to the next section. It is recommended that you read over text sections BEFORE we cover them in class. After we cover topics, you should complete assignments and do any extra practice or get help as needed. Don't wait until its too late (like after doing bad on a test).**

Week 1: Chapter 1  
Week 2: Chapter 2  
Week 3: Chapter 3  
Week 4: Review and Exam 1  
Week 5: Chapter 8  
Week 6: Chapter 8  
Week 7: Review and Exam 2  
Week 8: Chapter 11  
Week 9: Chapter 11  
Week 10: Chapter 12  
Week 11: Chapter 12  
Week 12: Review and Exam 3  
Week 13: Class Presentation  
Week 14: Review for the final