Syllabus: MTH 302--Concepts of Geometry

Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Fall 2018, Section 500

Instructor: Dr. Sarah T. Stovall  
Class Times & Place: Online in Brightspace, https://d2l.sfasu.edu/
E-mail address: stovall@sfasu.edu or in D2L (Brightspace)  
Office: Math 338
Office Phone: 936.468.1684
Virtual Office Hours: By appointment. Please email me to schedule a time that works for you.

Required Materials

Course Description
• MTH 302 consists of a survey of geometric topics with an emphasis on trigonometry and Euclidean geometry, including historical and grades 4-8 classroom connections.

Course Requirements
• Online modules and assignments due as posted in the Tentative Course Timeline
• Three Exams: Tentative dates –
  o Exam 1: September 21 (window from 4-8pm)
  o Exam 2: October 31 (window from 4-8pm)
  o Final Exam: December 12 (window from 4-8pm)
• For those of you who will be using testing centers off-campus, you should schedule a time on each of the test dates and send the testing center contact information to me as soon as possible so that I can make arrangements with your testing center.

Final Grade Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Module Assignments</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests (2 @ 25% each)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Course Grade</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90% - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80% - 90%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70% - 80%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60% - 70%</td>
<td>D</td>
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</tbody>
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General Policies and Information
• Please feel free to initiate a chat with me any time I am available on D2L, call, visit with me at my office, or send me questions by email within D2L.
• I will send e-mails to the entire class during the semester. Check your D2L e-mail account frequently.
• If you miss a test, have a valid excuse, and contact me prior to missing the exam, I will replace your missed test grade by your final exam grade. However, your final may only replace one other score.
• Attendance Policy: You are expected to login regularly.

Course Calendar:

- **Topics in Geometry**
  - Geometric constructions using compass, straight-edge, reflection devices and dynamic software
  - Geometric relationships within the axiomatic structure of Euclidean geometry
  - Parallel postulate
  - Geometric transformations using matrices
  - Algebra and geometry of conic sections
  - Historical and classroom connections

- **Topics in Trigonometry**
  - Trigonometric ratios from right triangles
  - Circular functions
    - Degree measure
    - Radian measure
  - Applications of trigonometric functions
  - Fundamental trigonometric identities
  - Historical and classroom connections
**Components of MTH 302 online:**

**Getting Started:** The first requirement of this course is to complete the "Getting Started" module. This module contains a copy of this course policy sheet, an introduction to your instructor, timeline with assignments and due dates, and a student introduction discussion. Finally, there is a "Getting Started" quiz that you should complete after reading through this course policy sheet, particularly the FAQ you’ll find below, and completing all the tasks. This quiz reinforces important points in this document and the other materials in the module. **You must receive a perfect score on this quiz before any other modules will be available to you.**

**The Learning Modules:** The rest of the course is composed of Learning Modules. Each module will have a set of assignments associated with it. Your assignments may include reading assignments from the notes, homework assignment from the notes, discussion assignments. **The module assignments will count as 10% of your grade for the semester.**

**About the Discussion Assignments:** In some modules, you will be asked to complete a discussion assignment. This assignment will usually be made to your group to which you were assigned in the Getting Started module. Discussions in this course will be used for two purposes. In some cases, discussions with your groups will give me the opportunity to hold conversations with you about course material. When this is the case, only your group will be part of the discussion. At other times, the discussion assignments will require that your group post a response to a posted question or topic for the class. Sometimes the groups will be responding to the same assignment and at other times, the groups will be responding to different assignments. Oftentimes the groups will then be required to post a response to the other group’s responses. In either case, it is imperative that the group duties be determined early in the assignment. Students study in different ways and on different schedules. With this in mind, you should always investigate the discussion assignments ASAP to avoid any deadline conflicts. When the discussion assignment requires that each group post a response and then respond to another group’s response, there will be two due dates for the discussion.

**The Discussion Board:** The discussion board is the location of where you will post your discussions. You can get to this location in two ways: at the end of the module or by clicking on the discussion tool on the tool bar. If you click the discussion tool, you will see that there are three items available to you on day one: Student Introductions, Open Discussion, and Private Group Discussion Board. These are the only categories that you have access to at this time. As you receive new assignments, new categories will be revealed to you on the board. If you have already completed your student introduction, you should see that posted here along with the postings from your classmates. Be sure to revisit this link so that you can find out who else is in the course with you! The Open Discussion category is a place where we can talk in general about anything regarding the course. The Private Discussion Category is the place that you will discuss your topic within your group. Only your group members and your instructor can see what is posted here. You should use this location to determine what your group posts to the class as your response to the assignment. Once complete then your group should determine which member is responsible for then posting the groups comments to the class discussion board.

**Frequently Asked Questions about MTH 302 online:**

**IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING, ASK NOW. DON'T WAIT!**

- How can I login to the website where our course is located?
  - The software system in which our course is conducted is called D2L, at is [http://d2l.sfasu.edu](http://d2l.sfasu.edu).
  - You will need a mySFA username and PIN to login.
- You should start by looking in the **Getting Started** folder and reading the information presented there.
- Do I need a calculator? If so, what kind?
  - If you wish to use a four-function calculator or scientific calculator on exams, you may. However, you may NOT use a graphing calculator on exams.
  - Cell phones may not be used as calculators or clocks on exams.
- How do I know when assignments are due?
  - The **Getting Started** folder contains the Tentative Course Timeline that you should print and use as a checklist. In general, work is due on announced days at **11:59PM**.
- Are there lectures for this class?
  - **YES.** These are the modules (also called Learning Modules) you see on the Home Page, or Course Content Page. They are html documents arranged as slide shows that you scroll through. They are similar to what I’d say and write on the board in class if we were meeting face-to-face. You are expected to read the modules, answer questions, and work the example problems you find there.
- Can I work through the material as fast as I want?
  - **NO.** Material becomes available at dates and times specified on the Tentative Course Timeline. This is to give you time to work and digest content before moving forward with new material.
- What if I have technical difficulties?
  - We must all recognize that this course is dependent on technology. If you find a glitch in anything, it is your responsibility to inform me immediately! If it is something that I can fix, I will do so ASAP. Otherwise, I will direct you to other means of help. Only with such notifications will I consider the adjustment of deadlines.
- Do I have to come to campus?
NO. All work, except exams, will be done online. Exams will NOT be taken online; they will be taken in a proctored environment using pencil and paper (not computers). The procedure for taking and scheduling exams is covered in the next bullet point.

- How do the exams work?
  - Exams for this class will be taken with pencil and paper, not online or through a computer system. This allows you to show your work and allows me to see your thought process and offer partial credit and feedback on your work. It is VERY IMPORTANT that you realize:
    - Exams MUST be proctored and taken at a testing center, either on SFASU's campus or elsewhere. If you choose to take your exams at SFA, you schedule your appointment time through me.
    - It is YOUR responsibility to locate and give me contact information for your chosen testing center. It is also YOUR responsibility to schedule your exam. I will ask for verification of your exam appointments.
    - Some testing centers charge a fee for use. There is no fee for taking exams with me at SFA's campus.
    - There will be 2 regular exams and a comprehensive final exam. The first two exams will last 1.5 hours and the final exam will last 2 hours.
    - Exam dates are set prior to the start of the semester, so you will have plenty of time to arrange your schedule. You should not miss an exam except for an excused absence.

- How can I arrange to take my exams on the SFASU campus?
  - Unfortunately, the SFASU testing center is not available for use by students in online courses, so you must arrange to take your exams with the instructor. On-campus exam dates are listed on the Tentative Course Timeline.

- What GRADED work is there?
The grading scheme for the course is as follows:

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<td>Exam 1 and 2</td>
<td>25% each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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There is no extra credit.

- Who does the grading?
  - The online assignments are graded by the instructor. The exams (which are taken on paper) will be graded by the instructor. After the first two exams are graded, they will be returned to you through the D2L system. (The final exam will not be returned.)

- What is your policy on late work?
  - Late work is not accepted, except in extreme circumstances with documentation.

- What OTHER (ungraded) work is there?
  - Read the modules online
  - Work through any other activities posted online inside the modules
  - Communicate with your professor and fellow students through the discussion boards and email
  - Meet and keep track of deadlines for online homework assignments

- If I find I am not doing well, are there opportunities for extra credit?
  - THERE IS NO EXTRA CREDIT. Be sure to make the course a priority all semester long so that you can do as well as you require for your needs.

- How can I get help?
  - I expect to get LOTS of email from you with questions. That is what I am here for. (That is why SFASU has a mathematics professor teaching this course, and not an information technology administrator.) You will need to get used to asking questions through email. Please remember the following throughout the semester:

  IF YOU DON’T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING, ASK NOW. DON’T WAIT!
University Policies

Add/Drop Policy
The Add/Drop Policy can be found at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/add_drop.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/add_drop.asp)

Attendance Policy
- Regular attendance (online participation) is expected in MTH 302. Exam make-ups must be approved beforehand with documentation of a valid university sanctioned excuse
- Late work is not accepted
- Bring your university ID card to all exams
- The university’s Attendance and Excused Absences Policy can be found at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/class_attendance_excused_abs.asp)

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course.

Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

Any acts of academic dishonesty will be dealt with according to University policy. Penalties for academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for the assignment, failing the course, or even dismissal from the university. Please read the complete [Academic Integrity Policy](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/students/behavior/academic_integrity_policy.asp) online.