Class Syllabus / Policy for Fall 2023

MTH 5335: Technology and Communication in the Mathematical Sciences

Name: Dr. Nicholas Long and Dr. Jacob Turner
Department: Mathematics & Statistics
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Phone: 936-468-1822 (Dr. Long)  936-468-1692 (Dr. Turner)
Office: Math 308 (Dr. Long)  Math 342 (Dr. Turner)

Office Hours:
Dr. Long: Monday and Wednesday from 1:30-2:30 PM, Tuesday and Thursday from 10-11 AM, or by appointment (this means you need to find a time meet with one of us when you have a question)
Dr. Turner: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11am-12:30pm or by appointment

Class meeting time and place: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 11:00 - 11:50 AM in Math 358

Text and Materials: None Required but see below for some reference resources that will be helpful to consult

EXPECTATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

The most important things in this class are not Drs. Long and Turner capabilities or what you “understand” or the most optimal way to do this task. The most important things are your ability to communicate and persuade with ideas, using computers to solve problems and communicate effectively, and your growth and improvement in communicating math/stat and working on non-routine problems.

Since this course is focused on your ideas and abilities, it is vital that you get individual feedback and we (Drs. Long and Turner) get a record of your work. You are allowed to communicate with each other about the ideas in the course but you should not show other students your work (code, notebook, etc.). We will talk more about this as the course goes on but you should error on the side of caution when it comes to collaboration.

We will not show you everything in class. One of the most enduring skills you should get from this course is how to clarify what you are trying to do and adapt existing resources to your needs.

Students should at a minimum address all of the required parts of assignments but should also learn to explore and make these things their own. You can’t explore and get comfortable with these tools at the last minute, so you need to work early and often on these assignments. In fact, we have made it mandatory to do something extra on assignments in order to get an A or B in the course.

The reference text (not required to buy but available online for free at https://pythonnumericalmethods.berkeley.edu). This is a good reference for Python and some of the math ideas in this course. You should feel free to regularly consult this for ideas on how to do various things in the JupyterLab environment.

This course is focused on your individual capabilities and is not suited to exams, as such your grade will be determined in terms of two categories of assignments as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>D</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily HW</td>
<td>70% or more</td>
<td>80% or more</td>
<td>85% or more</td>
<td>90% or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>complete</td>
<td>complete</td>
<td>complete</td>
<td>complete</td>
<td>complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly HW</td>
<td>70% or more</td>
<td>80% or more</td>
<td>85% or more</td>
<td>95% or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>complete</td>
<td>complete</td>
<td>complete</td>
<td>At least 1</td>
<td>At least 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>exceptional</td>
<td>exceptional</td>
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If you are not able to meet the criteria of the D grade, then your grade will be an F. Your grade is determined by the lowest category you have achieved for the semester. If you have an A in the first category but a C in the
second category, your grade for the semester will be a C. Drs. Long and Turner are happy to talk to you about your standing and how we feel that you can improve both in skills and in your grade.

- Daily HW is either complete or incomplete (will rarely have extensions or resubmissions) These assignments are about you keeping up with the things necessary to be a participant in class.
- Weekly HW will be graded as either complete or incomplete (will usually have a brief time after submission where you can resubmit, you should not count on this as being your means to get a complete). Weekly HW has the option to be counted as exceptional if you have an exceptional element to your work (above the minimum requirements). This could be excellent descriptions or extending this work in ways that are meaningful and well executed. This is not really possible on every assignment which is why only a few of these are required to get an A or B.

_Per SFA policy 5.4, the schedule should reflect that there is (1) an amount of student work per credit hour that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks over a long semester, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or (2) at least an equivalent amount of work as outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours. So, for instance, a 3 credit hour face-to-face course in the fall or spring term should approximate 150 minutes of classroom time and at least 6 hours of out-of-class work per week for fifteen weeks._

Academic Integrity
The Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outlines the prohibited conduct by any student enrolled in a course at SFA. It is the responsibility of all members of all faculty, staff, and students to adhere to and uphold this policy.

Articles IV, VI, and VII of the new Code of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity outline the violations and procedures concerning academic conduct, including cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and misrepresentation. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) Copying from the test paper (or other assignment) of another student, (2) Possession and/or use during a test of materials that are not authorized by the person giving the test, (3) Using, obtaining, or attempting to obtain by any means the whole or any part of a non-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program, or using a test that has been administered in prior classes or semesters without permission of the Faculty member, (4) Substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for one’s self, to take a test, (5) Falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other records or academic work offered for credit, (6) Using any sort of unauthorized resources or technology in completion of educational activities.

Plagiarism is the appropriation of material that is attributable in whole or in part to another source or the use of one’s own previous work in another context without citing that it was used previously, without any indication of the original source, including words, ideas, illustrations, structure, computer code, and other expression or media, and presenting that material as one’s own academic work being offered for credit or in conjunction with a program course or degree requirements.

Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any provision of the rules on academic dishonesty, including disclosing and/or distributing the contents of an exam.

Misrepresentation is providing false grades or résumés; providing false or misleading information in an effort to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, quiz, or other assignment for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit for oneself or another individual or to injure another student academically or financially.
Withheld Grades Semester Grades (SFA Policy 5.5)
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 coursework 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 to compute the grade point average. For additional information, go to https://www.sfasu.edu/policies/course-grades-5.5.pdf.

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. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices.

SFASU Mental Health Statement: SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

On-campus Resources:
SFASU Counseling Services
www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices
3rd Floor Rusk Building
936-468-2401

SFASU Human Services Counseling Clinic
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
Human Services Room 202
936-468-1041

Crisis Resources:
Burke 24-hour crisis line 1(800) 392-8343
Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1(800) 273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

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 10.4). 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.
The following is an excerpt from SFA Policy 5.4:

The federal definition of a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:

1. Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or;

2. At least an equivalent amount of work as outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

To this end, all students in courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics that wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of two hours outside of class for every credit hour associated with this course. Expected activities to be completed in the time outside of class include reviewing notes from previous class meetings, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises and projects, and performing periodic assessment preparation.

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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. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices.

**Student Wellness and Well-Being**

SFA values students’ overall well-being, mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. Students may experience stressors that can impact both their academic experience and their personal well-being. These may include academic pressure and challenges associated with relationships, emotional well-being, alcohol and other drugs, identities, finances, etc.

If you are experiencing concerns, seeking help, SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free, and all of them are confidential.

**On-campus Resources:**

**The Dean of Students Office** (Rusk Building, 3rd floor lobby)
www.sfasu.edu/deanofstudents
936.468.7249
dos@sfasu.edu

**SFA Human Services Counseling Clinic** Human Services, Room 202
www.sfasu.edu/humanservices/139.asp
936.468.1041

**The Health and Wellness Hub** “The Hub”
Location: corner of E. College and Raguet St.

To support the health and well-being of every Lumberjack, the Health and Wellness Hub offers comprehensive services that treat the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Services include:

- Health Services
- Counseling Services
- Student Outreach and Support
- Food Pantry
- Wellness Coaching
- Alcohol and Other Drug Education

www.sfasu.edu/thehub
936.468.4008
thehub@sfasu.edu

**Crisis Resources:**

- Burke 24-hour crisis line: 1.800.392.8343
- National Suicide Crisis Prevention: 9-8-8
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HELLO to 741-741

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*Date of document: 08/23/2023*