NUAMES

Ogden Campus

Mathematical Decision Making for Life

2019-2020

Teacher: Jessie Barrow

Class Website: barrowmath.weebly.com canvas.instructure.com

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Course Objective:

The purpose of this course is to make mathematics relevant and real for students and prepare them for their mathematical futures. The course includes mathematical decision making in finance, modeling, probability and statistics, and making choices.



Frequent communication between parents or guardians and the teacher is a HUGE factor in any student's success in math. The more we talk, the better your student's chances are for success. Email is my preferred method of reaching out to inform you of details and deadlines, issues your student may come across in the math, and achievements your student earns.

I cannot stress enough how important it is that we have an easy way to communicate. So, please check that the email address in MyDSD is the best one with which to reach you. Also, make sure you know how to obtain your student's current grade and missing assignments in MyDSD. Finally, please feel very welcome to contact me by email, the Remind app, by telephone, or by dropping by during office hours as often as you like.

Thank you!!

My intention is to make mathematics accessible to every student while preparing them for the rigors ahead. To this end, I will create in-class exercises that are challenging and engaging and assign homework exercises that are manageable and relevant. Students need to come to class every day armed with a positive attitude and a steadfast dedication to success.

The math is intended to be tough and to require some perseverance at times, but also to be enjoyable and clear. My philosophy is that accomplishment in the math and in the course must be attainable for every student who puts the work in. Let's get started!

Communication with Ms. Barrow:

I am always available by email (jebarrow@dsdmail.net) to answer questions about the class or questions about specific homework problems. You can also contact me via the Remind app – join by text messaging @4bd74c to the number 81010. I have office hours in M3-101 for 30 minutes before school, 30 minutes at lunch, and 30 minutes after school every day. Please email or text often and **please** come and visit during office hours as often as you can!



Necessary Materials:

Students will require a 1-inch, 3-ring binder with loose lined note paper and loose graph paper inside. They will be required to have this with them every day, as well as pencils and erasers.

I have a classroom set of graphing calculators and a classroom set of scientific calculators that students can use during class, but these cannot be checked out overnight.

If you do want to purchase a calculator for this course, it is totally up to you and your student which kind you want to buy. For graphing calculators, I like the TI-Nspire, but the older TI-84 could suit your student's needs just as well. For scientific calculators, the TI-36X Pro is my favorite.

Students will also require access to the internet so they can visit my Canvas course. If there is no internet access at home, students can access the Canvas course using the math department laptops during my office hours.

Students will check out a textbook (<u>Using and Understanding Mathematics</u> by Jeffrey Bennett and William Briggs) and will be required to have this with them every day.

Grade Determination:

Students' grades will be composed of Exercises, Projects, Portfolios, Quizzes, and Exams. Exercises are to be completed for homework and will be graded for completion. There will be keys online so that you may check your answers – please be wise about how you use the keys! Copying the key to turn in is a guaranteed way to cheat yourself out of the practice and understanding required to perform well on quizzes and exams. Projects will usually be completed in class, and grades will be assigned to groups rather than individual students. Portfolios will consist of a collection of useful exercises and notes, and will be graded prior to each exam. Exams will take place twice every term, and all exams will be cumulative.

Grades will be determined as follows: The final grading scale is as follows:

Exercises: 25%	А	[93-100]
Projects: 10%	A-	[90-93)
Portfolios: 5%	B+	[87-90)
Quizzes: 20%	В	[83-87)
Exams: 40%	B-	[80-83)
	C+	[77-80)
	С	[73-77)
	C-	[70-73)
Late exercises will be accepted with a penalty	D	[60-70]
of 20%. Students may only turn in late exercises	F	[0-60)
before the next exam (or until the end of the term if		- ,
that comes first).		

Quizzes and exams cannot be retaken or corrected. In the majority of cases, however, there will be a second version of the problems available which can be completed for half credit and checked off with the teacher <u>before the next exam</u> (or until the end of the term if that comes first). This is so that students can relearn missed concepts while earning more points on assessments that did not go as well as hoped.

Website and Calendar:

The Canvas course contains all due dates, quiz or exam dates, and other deadlines. Please visit the Canvas course every day to stay on top of exercises. Due dates, quiz dates, and exam dates do not change because of absences. It is the student's responsibility to maintain the schedule the rest of the class is keeping and to stay up-to-date on the mathematics, even if there have been absences.

barrowmath.weebly.com contains resources for parents or guardians to help their students succeed in math. Please visit with your parent or guardian if you are having a hard time with exercises at home

Student Expectations:

Follow all rules, the cheating policy, and the attendance policy in your NUAMES Student Handbook.

Students must come to class prepared, on time, and ready to work. Expect to practice a <u>lot</u> of math, and expect your brain to work hard. It is imperative that each student maintains a positive, optimistic outlook so that our math class as a whole can achieve.

Ask lots of questions – I know asking questions can be an act of courage, but in-class discussion of errors and misconceptions is an absolutely necessary part of your learning process.

Respect each other, so that we can maintain an environment where people can learn freely, and respect me, so that I can try to keep everything running smoothly. Our math class needs to be a safe place for everyone.

Cell phones are not allowed in class, so students will be required to store their cell phone at the front of the room every day. If there is an extenuating situation where someone may need to contact a student during class, please have that person call the main office, who will then contact the student through the teacher.