MATH 103B: Applied Algebra
Section 002 — Fall 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Dr. Charles Patterson

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Office Hours: 12:30pm-2:00pm & 4:00-5:00pm MW / 12:30pm-5:00pm TR / Friday by Appointment

Class Information

Dates: 09/07/23 – 11/16/23
Time: TR 11:00am – 12:15pm
Classroom: IESB 214 / BOGH 305

Course Description

Concurrent co-requisite for Math 103C. This course consists of instructor-supervised learning sessions designed to supplement and enhance the course material from Math 103C. The course provides a structured environment for small group sessions, where students will study and work together on mathematics.

Course Objectives

After this course, you should be able to. . .

- To develop a matured perspective on how to approach mathematical problems and concepts.
- To improve your ability to engage in mathematical thinking, reasoning, communication, and problem solving.
- To learn how to take abstract questions, make them concrete, and use Mathematics to analyze these questions.
- To encourage you to become a reflective mathematics student.
- To understand Mathematics not only as a tool for solving problems but as an art and science in and of itself.
- To learn to [self] assess mathematical problems, solutions, and concepts.

Textbook, Calculators, & Software

Textbook: *Algebra for College Students, 9th Edition*, by Lial/Hornsby/McGinnis.

Calculator: TI-30XIIS, No other calculator permitted.

Software: MyLab Math by Pearson

Phone and Device Policies

Following University guidelines, all electronic devices should be turned off and put away during class. Use of such devices can result in dismissal from class. Math 103B requires each student to be present and active in class discussions and activities. Phones are an unnecessary distraction. Please avoid all phone use during class.

Class Attendance and Participation

It is essential to your success in this course that you attend each lecture and participate in the discussions. Therefore, you are expected to attend each lecture and to show up on time. Should you need to miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for any material covered, any work assigned, or any course changes made during the lecture. Do not expect the instructor to provide notes from any class that you might miss. More than three unexcused absences from lectures could result in receiving an 'F' in the course, as University policy. Furthermore, excessive lateness will also count as an absence.

Classwork

Math 103B will largely consist of group work (groups to be determined by instructor). Each class period will focus on co-requisite materials to provide better understanding for Math 103C.

Grading

Students will receive either an "S" or "NC" for the course. This will be based on class participation, class attendance, daily quizzes, and the grade earned in Math 103C. Any student failing Math 103C will automatically receive an "NC" in Math 103B.

Mathematics Help

Be proactive about your success in the course! If you need help, there are many resources available to help you. Your first primary contact for help is the instructor. If you are struggling, attend office hours or send an email. Do not wait to bring issues, course related or otherwise, to the attention of the instructor. If you cannot attend office hours, send an email to the instructor to try to make other arrangements. You may also find help at the BARC (Bulldog Achievement Resource Center): https://www.latech.edu/current-students/barc/.

Students with Disabilities

Louisiana Tech University values diversity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. My goal as your instructor is to create a learning environment that is equitable, inclusive and welcoming. If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Department of Testing and Disability Services (TDS) located on the third floor of Wyly Tower. Please contact them at your earliest convenience to ensure there is no disruption to your academics. https://www.latech.edu/current-students/disability-services/

Counseling Services

If at any point during the semester, you feel overwhelmed with your class work, feel thoughts of depression/suicide, experience sexual assault/rape, experience problems with substance abuse or relationship abuse, or have any other struggles with physical/mental health, ***please seek help***! The Counseling Center Services at Louisiana Tech University are a resource offering assistance with any issue that may arise. There is ***never*** any shame in seeking help. If you or someone you know is struggling with any of these issues, speak out! The Counseling Center Services website can be found at https://www.latech.edu/counseling-services/ and is located in Keeny Hall.

Academic Integrity

Louisiana Tech University's Academic Integrity Policy reflects the high value that we, as a university community, place on honesty in academic work. The policy defines our expectations for academic honesty and holds students accountable for the integrity of all work they submit. Students should understand that it is their responsibility to learn about course-specific expectations, as well as about university-wide academic integrity expectations. The university policy governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments. To learn more about our university policy visit https://www.latech.edu/student-advancement-affairs/student-conduct-integrity/.

Hazing

In compliance with Acts 635, 637, and 640 of the 2018 Regular Session and Act 382 of the 2019 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature and the 2019 Board of Regents Uniform Policy on Hazing, the System reaffirms its policy that any form of hazing of any student enrolled at any institution of the System is prohibited. Violation of this Policy can result in both disciplinary action imposed by the organization and/or institution as well as criminal charges.

Emergency Alert

Louisiana Tech University's crisis notification system, uses text messages, phone, and email alerts to provide rapid notification and instructions to members of the University community in the event of a critical incident in progress. Critical incidents could include an individual who is considered armed and dangerous, a hazardous materials incident, an explosion, or any other event in which there is an immediate threat of physical harm or death to campus community members. To sign up, visit https: //www.latech.edu/student-advancement-affairs/university-police/emergency-notification-system/

Email Policy

Louisiana Tech University has established email as a primary vehicle for official communication with students, faculty, and staff. All email communication in this course should be done using your @email.latech.edu email account. Due to federal laws, such as FERPA, emails coming from a non-latech email may not receive a response. Please, title emails with Math 103: [Email Issue], where "email issue" is a summary title of the content of the email. This is to help ensure that your email is noticed and responded to.

Respect Policy

I respect your time:

- I will come prepared to help you understand the course material and prepare you for quizzes/exams.
- Communication is key: I cannot help you if I do not know what is going on.
- I am here to help you, this is your time, so let me know what I can do to help you succeed.

Respect my time:

- Be on time to class.
- Pay attention when I am talking to you.
- Come to class prepared by doing the work and going to office hours when you need help.

Respect each other:

- Do not be disruptive. If you need to take a call or text someone (emergency only), take it outside.
- Work with each other to find solutions. You learn more by helping each other.
- Allow one another to make mistakes. This is an important part of the learning process.
- Use respectful language when talking with one another.

Tips for Success

- Be proactive about your success in the course.
- Do not procrastinate! Begin your assignments and studying early!
- Attend every class.
- Ask questions whether it is during class, office hours, at the BARC or via email to your instructor.
- Form a study group! Working together will help you and others better understand the course material as you can work through different difficulties and offer each other clarifications on concepts.
- Do problems! Reading through your notes is not enough. Seek out new problems and work through them carefully. When you are done, check your answer. If you are wrong, examine carefully what misunderstanding occurred and how to avoid it in the future. If you were correct, examine if there was a faster way, check to see if your solution 'flowed' and was easy to read, and think over what concepts/computations were used and what 'type' of problem the exercise was.
- Every time you approach a new concept, carefully think how it could be applied in your own field of study.