

Syllabus – MATH 187A/B: Basic Arithmetic

Winter 2012 - Section 4

(Keep this syllabus in your notebook for reference.)

Instructor:	John Stockton	Course ID:	187A: stockton50031 187B: stockton59555
E-mail:	johntheking2000@yahoo.com	Office Hours:	2:30 – 3:00 PM TR or by appointment
Course Website:	www.coursecompass.com (MyMathLab)	Office:	TBA
Class Times:	187A: A206, 10:30-12:55 AM TR 187B: A206, 10:30-12:20 AM TR	Phone:	TBA

LTCC Math Webpage: <http://www.ltcc.edu/academics.asp?scatID=5&catID=34>

TEXTBOOK (OPTIONAL): *Basic College Mathematics*, by Tobey & Slater, Sixth Edition

REQUIRED SOFTWARE LICENSE: It is required to have a software license to use the software MyMathLab in this class. Students have two choices:

- The first choice is to purchase the textbook from the bookstore. The textbook comes with the software license for an additional cost of approximately \$5.
- The second choice is to purchase the license alone either from the bookstore or online at coursecompass.com. The license gives you access to the textbook online. This is a more economical choice, but is only recommended to students who have online access and feel comfortable reading a computer screen instead of a traditional book.

If you purchase a used textbook, you will also need to purchase the software license. The software license is valid as long as the student uses the same textbook; the student may need to call the tech support to obtain another access code if the student takes the same class again later.

The courseID is listed in the table above, and is required to access the online portion of this course.

For assistance call 1-800-677-6337. Mon – Fri 5:00 AM – 5:00 PM & Sunday 2:00 PM – 9:00 PM. Online assistance is available 24 hours every day at: 247pearsoned.custhelp.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to teach students the skills of basic Arithmetic; in particular we will cover whole numbers, fractions, and an introduction to decimals. In reality, you have probably already seen this material somewhere in your educational past but may have forgotten it or never really understood it when it was first presented. In this class, our goal is to fill in the gaps of your knowledge about arithmetic and to help you get the “big picture” so that it will all fit together in a way which makes sense to you and that you are able to apply it to “real life” problems. This course is an extended version of Math 187A in which we will include a component of study skills to assist you in being successful in this math class and others which you will take in the future.

This is actually two six-week classes (each receiving its own grade):

- **Math 187A** covers whole numbers, fractions, and an introduction to decimals.
- **Math 187B** covers the rest of decimals, percents, and an introduction to algebra.

CALCULATORS: Calculators are **not** allowed in this class on quizzes, exams or the final.

Technology in the Classroom: All cell phones, laptops, headphones, MP3 players, iPods, etc, must be turned off and put away prior to the start of each class. No electronic devices may be used during and exams.

TUTORING: Tutoring is available in the Math Success Center (MSC) in Room 201. Students will earn 0.5 point toward the total grade for every 10 hours in MSC or DRC. However, if any student misses two or more classes, no lab credit will be granted.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Perform arithmetic operations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals.
2. Translate written language into mathematical statements.
3. Apply the concepts in the course to real-life situations.
4. Apply study skills learned in this class to studying in this class.

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

	187A		187B	
	Points Total	Percent	Points Total	Percent
Homework	88 Points	22%	100 Points	25%
Study Skills Assignment	12 Points	3%	--	--
Quizzes	20 Points	5%	20 Points	5%
Exams (2)	160 Points (80 Pts. Each)	40% (20% Each)	160 Points (80 Pts. Each)	40% (20% Each)
Comprehensive Final Exam	120 Points	30%	120 Points	30%

Your letter grade will be based on your total percentage (Applies to both courses).

A: 90-100%, **B:** 80-89%, **C:** 70-79%, **D:** 60-69%, **F:** less than 60%

CHECKING YOUR GRADE ONLINE:

You can check your grade at any time in MyMathLab where you will be doing your homework. I will drop a student from the class if the student misses two classes or more and is unable to keep up with the learning.

HOMEWORK:

Homework will be done online using MyMathLab. Due dates are listed for you when you go online to do the assignments. Feel free to consult a fellow classmate, a tutor, your instructor, or anyone else for assistance on the homework. In addition, the computer will give you help with any problem, show you an example of a similar problem, and in some cases show you a video of someone teaching how to do that type of problem. **If you don't have the internet connection at home, you can print them out in school at the Math Lab, TLC, or D-wing Lab**, work the problem on the papers, and enter the answers in school.

Homework assignments for each class session will be made available immediately after the corresponding lecture, and will typically be due a week later by 10:15 AM (the specific due date and time is listed with every assignment). Any change to this will be announced either in class or on the course's MyMathLab main page.

QUIZZES:

The quizzes will be assigned nearly every class period, they will be no longer than 10 minutes, and will be at the **beginning** of class only. **There are NO make-up Quizzes, including being late to class.** If you know you will be late, please discuss with me before that particular day of class.

Quizzes will not be graded for accuracy, but rather for participation (2 points for full participation, 1 point for some/lackluster participation, 0 for no/very little participation). The primary goals for these quizzes are:

1. Keep you on track with the study schedule.
2. Give you an idea of what the exam problems will look like, and what is expected for full credit.
3. Build your confidence in your test taking abilities.

MATH 187A STUDY SKILLS COMPONENT

12 points of your grade in this class is based on the study skills component. You can earn those points in the following manner:

Study Skills Assignment: Individual Counseling, (12 points) Due Feb. 2, 2012

- a. Make an appointment for one hour to meet with any counselor.
- b. After your appointment, you need to write a half-page summary of your meeting with a counselor of what was most and least helpful about the counseling appointment. Turn this summary to John (me) by Feb. 2. Your report must be **TYPED**.

EXAM POLICY:

Grading will be based on progress towards the final answer, and the demonstration of understanding of the concept that is being tested. The more you show me with steps and detail, the better your chances for partial credit. You provide me the communication and detail in your answers; and I will give you the best grade I can based on that communication and answer. You can use one 8½ x 11 in. page of hand-written notes, front and back, for exams and the final.

EXAM MAKE-UP POLICY:

There will be **no** make-up exams with the exception of extreme emergencies with legitimate documentation, i.e, death in the family or severe illness. If I am **contacted in advance and the absence is excusable**, then we may be able to setup an alternate time to take the exam, either with me or at the TLC (Tutoring & Learning Center).

If you take the test at TLC, you need to make an appointment at TLC 24 hours ahead by going to TLC, call (530)541-4660 x 740, or e-mail TLCProctors@ltcc.edu.

COMMUNICATION POLICY:

The best way to get in touch with me (if I am not on campus) is through my email address above. One of the features of MyMathLab homework is that if you have a question on one of the problems, you can click 'Ask My Instructor' to send the problem to my email directly and you can tell me what is troubling you.

NOTE: If you do not write anything and just send the problem, I will assume that you do not know how to get started, so I may only go as far as getting you started.

If I am on campus, then I am either teaching or I am in my office. If I am there, you are more than welcome to ask me anything, even if it is technically not during my regularly scheduled office hours.

If you miss the class, it is your responsibility to pick up the class handouts or obtain the information either from your classmates or from me during the office hours.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN A MATH CLASS:

- 1) Choose to attend all class periods and be on time.
- 2) Read your textbook before class.
- 3) Exchange names and phone number with classmates.
- 4) Learn from your mistakes and be patient with yourself.
- 5) Don't be afraid of asking questions.
- 6) Know how to get help if you need it.
- 7) Organize your class materials.
- 8) Do your homework and DO NOT WAIT to do so.
- 9) Check your work.
- 10) Hand in assignments on time.

LEARNING DISABILITIES:

If you have a certifiable learning disability that may affect your performance in this class, be sure to discuss your special needs with me during the first week of class. Learning disabilities will be accommodated.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING):

Academic dishonesty of any form will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating on exams or quizzes will receive a score of zero on the assignment for the first offense and a course grade of F for the second offense.

Cheating will be defined as but not limited to: (1) using any method to copy another's work on an exam, quiz, or final (2) directly copying another student's homework assignment (3) using any method other than your own honest efforts to complete exams, quizzes, the final, or homework assignments.

The following activities are NOT cheating: (1) collaborating with other students to complete homework assignments (2) working with math tutors or academic coaches to complete homework assignments (3) working with other students to study for exams, quizzes or the final.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: If you need help paying for your books or other expenses, call our financial aid officer, America Ramirez, at 541-4660 x236, email her at Ramirez@ltcc.edu, or drop by A100.

WHERE TO FIND A COMPUTER ON CAMPUS:

Computers are available for your use in the following locations on campus:

- Learning Assistance Center (LAC)* open M – Th 9 – 6, F 10 – 2, Sa 11 – 3.
- Math Success Center (MSC) * open M – Th 9 – 6, Fri 10 – 2, Sat 11 – 1.
- Open Labs in the D-wing which have available times posted by the door of each lab.

* Both the LAC and the MSC are in room 201.

Tentative Lecture Schedule for Math 187A

Be sure to use class time, office hours, and the MSC to get all of your questions answered.

Tuesday	Thursday	Important Dates
1/3: Introduction & Syllabus MyMathLab Tutorial 1.1: Understanding Whole Numbers 1.2: Addition of Whole Numbers 1.3: Subtraction of Whole Numbers	1/5: Quiz 1 (1.1 – 1.3) 1.4: Multiplication of Whole Numbers 1.5: Division of Whole Numbers 1.6: Exponents & Order of Operations	1/6: Last Day for Refund in 187A
1/10: Quiz 2 (1.4 – 1.6) 1.7: Rounding and Estimation 1.8: Applied Problems 2.1: Understanding Fractions	1/12: Quiz 3 (1.7, 1.8, 2.1) 2.2: Simplifying Fractions Review for Exam 1	1/13: Last Day to Drop with No Refund in 187A
1/17: Exam 1 (Sections 1.1-1.8) (1 hour) 2.3: Improper Fractions and Mixed Numbers	1/19: Quiz 4 (2.2, 2.3) 2.4: Multiplication of Fractions and Mixed Numbers 2.5: Division of Fractions and Mixed Numbers 2.6: Least Common Denominator	
1/24: Quiz 5 (2.4, 2.5) 2.7: Addition and Subtraction of Fractions 2.8 Combining Mixed Numbers and Order of Operations	1/26: Quiz 6 (2.7, 2.8) 2.9: Applied Problems and Fractions Review for Exam 2	1/23: Last Day to Drop with a “W” grade in 187A
1/31: Exam 2 (2.1 – 2.9) (1 hour) 3.1: Decimal Notation	2/2: Quiz 7 (3.1) 3.2: Comparing, Ordering, and Rounding Decimals 3.3: Addition and Subtraction of Decimals 3.4: Multiplication of Decimals	Study Skills Assignment due 2/2
2/7: Quiz 8 (3.2 – 3.4) Review for Final Exam	2/9: Final Exam (Ch. 1, 2, 3.1 – 3.4)	Make sure you are resigtered for 187B (Begins 2/14)

For more information on important dates, refer to the back cover of the Winter 2012 Schedule of Classes catalog.

Tentative Lecture Schedule for Math 187B

Tuesday	Thursday	Important Dates
2/14: 3.5: Division of Decimals 3.6: Converting Fractions to Decimals & Order of Operations 3.7: Applied Problem Involving Decimals	2/16: Quiz 1 (3.5 – 3.7) 4.1: Ratios (No homework for this section) 4.2: Proportions 4.3: Solving Proportions 5.1: Understanding Percent	2/16: Last Day for Refund in 187B
2/21: Quiz 2 (4.2, 4.3, 5.1) 5.2: Changing between percents, decimals, and fractions. 5.3: Solving percents using a proportion and using an equation	2/23: Quiz 3 (5.2, 5.3) 5.4: Solving applied percent problems 5.5: Solving commission, percent of increase or decrease, and interest problems	2/24: Last Day to Drop with No Refund in 187B
2/28: Quiz 4 (5.4, 5.5) 9.1: Addition of signed numbers 9.2: Subtraction of signed numbers Review for Exam 1	3/1: Exam 1 (3.5 – 3.7, 4.2, 4.3, Chapter 5) (1 hour) 9.3: Multiplication and Division of signed numbers	
3/6: Quiz 5 (9.3) 9.4: Order of Operations with signed numbers 6.4: Converting units of measure 7.5: Square Roots	3/8: Quiz 6 (9.4, 6.4, 7.5) 10.1: Variables and Like Terms Review for Exam 2	3/5: Last Day to Drop with a “W” grade in 187B
3/13: Exam 2 (Chapter 9, 6.4, 7.5) 10.2: The distributive property	3/15: Quiz 7 (10.1 – 10.2) 10.3: Solving equations using the addition property Review for Final Exam	
3/20: Final Exam (11:00 AM – 12:50 PM)	3/22:	YOU MADE IT! CONGRATS!

First Homework Assignment: (HW1) **due 1/10 before class**

Write me a letter introducing yourself.

- Tell me whatever you would like, such as your hobbies, goals, or plans for the future.
- Most important, tell me your *honest* opinion on the topic of math. If you like math or hate math, tell me that and why (if you do not know specifically why, you do not have to elaborate any further than simply liking or hating it).

Please have them typed. (No page minimum, no longer than 1 page please). You may either email it to me or give me a physical printed copy.

Here is a sample letter from me to you:

Dear Students,

My name is John Stockton, and I am excited to teach math to you all this quarter. I very recently finished my Master's degree in Mathematics (with an emphasis in Statistics), which I hope to put to good use here at Lake Tahoe Community College. The topic of math has always been a strong topic of mine, but it was not until I was a graduate student that I truly discovered how amazing and fascinating the topic can be. I sincerely wish that everyone can see math the way that I see it, which is why teaching math is something that I am committed to and passionate about, and I hope this enthusiasm can rub off onto to all of you.

I enjoy playing music as well; in particular, I play guitar, bass, piano, and saxophone (not necessarily well). I very much enjoy watching movies and TV shows. Some very recent favorite movies include *Drive*, *The Descendants*, and especially *Inception*. I like the shows *How I Met Your Mother*, *Modern Family*, and my current favorite is *Community* (somewhat ironic, I know). I like to play video games (when I have time to), and my favorite travel destinations are any places with roller coasters.

I am really looking forward to the coming quarter, and I plan on making this as fun and informative and I possibly can. Just remember, math was not designed to make your life miserable. Just remember to study regularly and **ask questions!** Best of luck to you all.

Sincerely,

John Stockton