

**MAT 117 Foundational Mathematics via Problem Solving I**

**Fall 2017 Section \_\_\_\_\_**

**Mondays & Wednesdays from \_\_\_\_\_**

**120 Carnegie**

**Instructor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Location and Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Office Hours:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Departmental Syllabus for

### MAT 117 Foundational Mathematics via Problem Solving I

**Course Supervisor:** Dr. Joanna O. Masingila, 103B Carnegie/230 Huntington, 315-443-4751, [jomasing@syr.edu](mailto:jomasing@syr.edu) Problems you cannot resolve with your instructor should be brought to the attention of the course supervisor.

**Course Description:** This course is one course in a two-course sequence. The course emphasizes learning through problem solving and uses the TI-84 calculator as a learning tool. Topics include number concepts and relationships (including concepts of numeration, operations, number theory), probability, statistics and functions. The course is restricted to students in the Inclusive Elementary and Special Education program.

- Textbooks:**
- (1) Masingila, J.O., Lester, F.K., & Raymond, A. M. (2012). *Mathematics for elementary teachers via problem solving: Student activity manual* (5<sup>th</sup> ed). Ann Arbor, MI: XanEdu Publishing [ISBN #9781581527704] — must be purchased at the Syracuse University Bookstore. [**Note: Do not purchase used copies of this book.**]
  - (2) Masingila, J.O., Lester, F.K., & Raymond, A. M. (2012). *Mathematics for elementary teachers via problem solving: Student resource handbook* (5<sup>th</sup> ed). Ann Arbor, MI: XanEdu Publishing.

#### Required Supplementary Materials:

- 3-ring binder in which to keep daily HW, any class work not done in text, and all assignments (quizzes, papers, projects, tests)
- Folder with pockets in which to hand in HW to be graded
- TI-84 graphics calculator—can be purchased at a variety of stores and the Syracuse University Bookstore

**Course Philosophy:** The emphasis in this course is on learning mathematical concepts through solving problems, and it is our conviction that problems are best solved in a cooperative learning situation. Hence, you will often work with two to four other students; an arrangement that we believe has the following advantages:

- Group problem solving is often broader, more creative, and more insightful than individual efforts.
- Interaction with others may stimulate additional problems, insights, and discoveries.
- Students can motivate one another to excel and to accept more challenging problems.
- Motivation to persevere with a problem may be increased.
- Socialization skills are developed and practiced.

- Students are exposed to a variety of thinking and problem-solving styles different from their own.
- Students learn to depend on themselves and each other (rather than on the instructor) for problem solutions.
- Conceptual understanding is deeper and longer lasting when ideas are shared and discussed.

**Learning Outcome Goals:**

- To help you develop an adult-level perspective and insight into the nature of foundational mathematics;
- To expose you to key, recurring themes, processes, and tactics in mathematics and help you make connections among mathematical ideas through these themes, processes, and tactics;
- To improve your ability to engage in mathematical thinking, reasoning, communication, and problem solving;
- To involve you in using technology as a tool to explore and learn mathematics;
- To encourage you to become reflective doers of mathematics;
- To learn mathematics through problem solving;
- To teach you in ways that fit the vision of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics *Standards*; and
- To assess your learning in a variety of ways.

**Class Attendance, Preparation, and Participation:** In this class you will be learning mathematics by struggling with and solving problems. Attendance and participation in class is crucial, for active involvement is an integral part of this course. Preparation for each class is a must: look over previous work, attempt homework, bring required material, etc. Most class periods we will be using manipulatives and/or technological tools to explore mathematical concepts. Since much of the class is experiential, it would be impossible to derive the same benefits by merely examining someone’s class notes or reading the textbook. Thus, you are **EXPECTED TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN CLASS**. If you miss three or more classes before the first exam, or between the first and second exam, you will be unable to participate in the part of the exam that is completed in a group.

**Grading:** Your final grade in this course will be based on class participation and your performance on quizzes, midterms, the final exam (which is cumulative), in- and out-of-class projects, and your classwork and homework (units). The relative weight assigned to each is designated below:

Midterm Exams (2)	30%
Final Exam	20%
Folders	20%
Projects	20%
Quizzes, Papers, Class Participation	10%

**Midterm Exams and Final Exam:** The two midterm exams will each have a group part and an individual part. The final will be cumulative and mandatory. If you must miss an exam, it is imperative that you call before the exam begins. Reasons for missing an exam must be documentable. Each case will be handled on an individual basis. **The final exam will be given on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. DO NOT MAKE PLANS TO LEAVE CAMPUS BEFORE 2:30 P.M. ON DECEMBER 13, 2017.** The specific time for MAT 117 will be announced during the semester.

**Folders:** Folders (comprised of in-class work and homework from specified chapters) will be graded on several occasions. You should hand in your classwork and the homework from the specified chapters in a folder as directed by your instructor. These will be graded for: completeness; accuracy of solutions; and quality of insight and reflection articulated in the writing responses. Always explain/show the thinking behind your answers and give examples to support your ideas.

**Projects:** You will be asked to do two group projects—a smaller one worth 5% of the final grade and a larger one worth 15%. Work on the projects will be mostly done out of class.

**Binder:** Your 3-ring binder is a very important part of the course. In general, it will contain all homework and reflective writing responses plus all class work and assignments not done directly in the textbook. The material should be kept organized and work should be done neatly.

**Quizzes:** There may be quizzes that will test your understanding of basic concepts/skills associated with the current topic. There are no make-ups for missed quizzes.

**Reflective Writing:** One important way to learn mathematics is by verbalizing your ideas through oral and written means. Thus, reflective writing is an integral part of this course and of gaining an adult-level perspective on the mathematics in this course. Your instructor may assign additional writing assignments, beyond those listed in the syllabus.

**Assessment and Grading:** A variety of alternative assessment methods are used in this course because the course has a different goal than many mathematics courses you may have had before. The goal of this course is not to have you learn formulas or to teach you to work problems on tests that are similar to those previously encountered on homework, quizzes or class work. Rather, *the goal of this course is to have you develop good understanding of key mathematical ideas and to ensure that you can communicate these ideas clearly and efficiently to others.*

**Students with Disabilities:** If you believe that you need academic adjustments (accommodations) for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), visit the ODS website (<http://disabilityservices.syr.edu>), located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call 315-443-4498 or TDD: 315-443-1371 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting academic adjustments. ODS is responsible coordinating disability-related academic adjustments and will issue students with documented Disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since academic adjustments may require

early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible.

**Academic Integrity:** The Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the Policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about instructor and general academic expectations with regard to proper citation of sources in written work. The policy also governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments as well as the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verifications of participation in class activities. Serious sanctions can result from academic dishonesty of any sort. For more information and the complete policy, see <http://academicintegrity.syr.edu>

**Religious observances policy.** SU religious observances policy recognizes the diversity of faiths represented among the campus community and protects the rights of students, faculty, and staff to observe religious holidays according to their tradition. Under the policy, students are provided an opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirements that may be missed due to are religious observance provided they notify their instructors before the end of the second week of classes. For fall and spring semesters, an online notification process is available through MySlice (Student Services -> Enrollment -> My Religious Observances) from the first day of class until the end of the second week of class.

### **MAT 117 - Fall 2017 - Course Schedule**

The tentative course schedule is outlined below. You should come prepared for each day's in-class activities and attempt all **A** homework before the next class. You should try to complete the **B** homework within a week of it being assigned.

**Key to abbreviations:** SAM: Student Activity Manual (main textbook)  
SRH: Student Resource Handbook  
EMP: Exercises & More Problems (end of each chapter in SAM)

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Class Activities</i></b>	<b><i>Homework</i></b>
Aug 28	Activities 1.1-1.2	A: Read syllabus, SAM pp. xiii-xvii & SRH pp. 19-26. Do Ch. 1 EMP #1-6, 30-32. B: Do Ch. 1 EMP #9, 11-12, 16, 18.
Aug 30	Activity 1.3	A: Do Ch. 1 EMP #39, read SRH 29-33, and Activity 2.1. B: Do Activity 1.4, 1.7 and Ch. 1 EMP #21-23, 25-26, 42.
Sept 4	<b>No classes—Labor Day</b>	
Sept 6	Activities 2.2-2.3	A: Read SRH pp. 34-41. Do Activity 2.4 and Ch. 2 EMP #1, 3, 45. B: Do Ch. 2 EMP #4, 46, 48.

Sept 11	Activities 2.6-2.7	A: Do Activity 2.5 and Ch. 2 EMP #6, 11, 13, 49. B: Do Ch. 2 EMP #35, 39-40.
Sept 13	Activities 2.8-2.9	A: Do Ch. 2 EMP #7, 8, 20, 50. Read SRH pp. 51-52, 66-68.
Sept 18	Activity 2.10	A: Do Ch. 2 EMP #22, 38, 44, 47. <b><i>Prepare/complete Ch. 1-2 material to be turned in on 9/25 for grading.</i></b>
Sept 20	Activity 3.1	A: Do Ch. 3 EMP #1, 6, 27, 30, 37-38. Read SRH pp. 48-50, 58-59, 63-65, 72-75.
Sept 25	Activities 3.2-3.3	A: Do Ch. 3 EMP #2-5, 7-10. Read SRH pp. 79-95.
Sept 27	Activities 3.4-3.5	A: Do Ch. 3 EMP #24-26, 28-29
Oct 2	Activities 3.6-3.9	A: Do Ch. 3 EMP #11-15, 17-23. B: Do Ch. 3 EMP #31-36. Read SRH pp. 96-98.
Oct 4	Activities 3.11-3.12	A: Do Ch. 3 EMP #39-45. <b><i>Prepare/complete Ch. 3 material to be turned in on 10/11 for grading.</i></b>
Oct 9	TEST 1 (Group)	
Oct 11	TEST 1 (Individual)	
Oct 16	Activities 4.1-4.3	A: Complete Activity 4.2. Read SRH pp. 102-105. Do Ch. 4 EMP #2-6, 10, 39, 45, 61-62. B: Do Ch. 4 EMP #9, 11, 79, 81.
Oct 18	Activity 4.4	A: Read SRH pp. 107-111. Do Ch. 4 EMP #7-8, 24-32.
Oct 23	Activities 4.5-4.6	A: Do Ch. 4 EMP #23, 82.
Oct 25	Activities 4.7-4.9	A: Read SRH pp. 112-116. Do Ch. 4 EMP #12, 14-16, 35, 63. B: Do Ch. 4 EMP #33, 36-38, 40-41, 56-57, 80.
Oct 30	Activities 4.10-4.11	A: Read SRH pp. 117-119. Do Activity 4.12 and Ch. 4 EMP #17-18, 65.

		B: Do Ch. 4 EMP #19, 48, 51, 66-68.
Nov 1	Activities 4.13-4.14	A: Do Ch. 4 EMP #69, 71. Read SRH 120-124. B: Do Activities 4.15-4.16 and Ch. 4 EMP #72, 74, 76. <b><i>Prepare/complete Ch. 4 material to be turned in on 11/8 for grading.</i></b>
Nov 6	Activities 5.1-5.2	A: Read SRH pp. 144-149. Do Ch 5 EMP #1-4, 30. <b><i>Work on data analysis group project.</i></b>
Nov 8	Activities 5.3-5.4	A: Read SRH pp. 152-166. Do Activity 5.6 and Ch 5 EMP #5-7, 31-32. <b><i>Data sets for data analysis group project must be approved.</i></b> B: Do Ch 5 EMP #8-9. <b><i>Work on data analysis project.</i></b>
Nov 13	Activity 5.7	A: Do Activity 5.9 and Ch 5 EMP #10-11. B: Do Activity 5.10 and Ch 5 EMP #33-35. <b><i>Work on data analysis project and second group project.</i></b>
Nov 15	Activities 5.11-5.12	A: Read SRH pp. 127-131,141-143. Do Ch 5 EMP #14-26, 36, 45-46, 49-50. <b><i>Written report for data analysis group project is due.</i></b> B: <b><i>Work on second group project.</i></b>
Nov 20, 22	<b>No class—Thanksgiving Break</b>	
Nov 27	Activities 5.13-5.14	A: Do Ch 5 EMP #37-44, 52. B: <b><i>Work on second group project. Prepare/complete Ch. 5 material to be turned in on 12/4 for grading.</i></b>
Nov 29	TEST 2 (Group)	A: <b><i>Work on second group project.</i></b>
Dec 4	TEST 2 (Individual)	A: <b><i>Work on second group project.</i></b>
Dec 6	Project Presentations	A: Prepare for final exam.
Dec 13	FINAL EXAM	<b><i>Note: the exam will be given during a 2 hr period sometime between 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</i></b>