MTH 110 – Math in Modern Culture  
Fall 2009

Instructor: Carol Overdeep  
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Other: Coursepack of class notes available in the bookstore

Course Prerequisite: None!!

Course Objectives:

♦ Develop new problem solving skills and enhance critical thinking abilities in a quantitative framework.
♦ Introduce personal financial literacy.
♦ Basic introduction to set theory, probability, and sampling.

Exams and Grading:

♦ Homework 30%  
♦ In-class Assignments 10%  
♦ Exams 1/2 30% (15% each)  
♦ Writing 20%  
♦ Final 10% Tuesday, 12/15/09, 1–3

Important: NO EXTRA CREDIT

Homework:

♦ Homework may be done in groups (each student must hand in an assignment).
♦ Assigned problems are on a separate handout as well as on my webpage.
♦ Due dates will be announced in class.
♦ You must show your work to receive full credit (where applicable).
♦ Late homework will be penalized/not accepted.
  o Homework will be considered late if not in my office by 3:00 on the due date unless prior arrangements have been made.
  o Homework will be accepted until the assignment is returned to the class–but it will be penalized unless prior arrangements have been made.

In-class Assignments:

♦ There will be 15–20 in-class assignments.
♦ The assignments will be a mix of problems from the text and activities.
♦ You may miss three without penalty. Absences due to school-sponsored activities or documented by a doctor will not be counted against you.
Exams 1/2:
♦ Make-up exams will not be possible without prior arrangements—and the reason for missing an exam must be compelling and perhaps more importantly, documented.
♦ Exams will resemble homework problems and problems done in class.
♦ You will be able to use a notecard during the exam.

Writing Assignments:
♦ Each section in the text contains one (or more) important points.
♦ For each section, you will select an important point and write either a limerick or haiku about the point. See attached page with examples of limericks and haikus. You may work in groups but each student needs to submit a unique piece of writing.

Final Exam:
♦ The final will be a writing jam—each student will read his/her favorite limerick or haiku.

General Philosophy/Attendance:
♦ College prepares you for a professional position.
♦ In the working world, you are responsible for your career and you are accountable for your decisions. For example, class attendance is expected (just as you are expected to go to work), but not required.

Important Dates:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day, no class</td>
<td>September 7, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to add a class</td>
<td>September 11, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Exam</td>
<td>October 8, 2009 (subject to change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Break, no class</td>
<td>October 15–16, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last day to withdraw</td>
<td>October 30, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Martin’s Day, no class</td>
<td>November 11, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Exam</td>
<td>November 19, 2009 (subject to change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Break, no class</td>
<td>November 26–27, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>December 15, 2009, 1–3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students with Disabilities:
If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have a medical and/or safety concern to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.
Limericks

Rhyming Pattern: *aabba*

# syllables: first, second, and fifth lines have 7–10 syllables; the third and fourth have 5–7.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unknown Title</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There once was a conch from Belize, who lead a short life of ease. In a turtle grass bed, all day he just fed, and did whatever he pleased.</td>
<td>As I gazed across the golden sands, overlooking the promised lands. A ship passed through, destination Timbuktu, working on deck were all hands.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Richard S. Appeldoorn


Haikus

Rhyming Pattern: none

# syllables: first and third lines have 5 syllables; second line has 7 syllables.

| Shimmering water, what stories you could recount if the moon were full! | Spin your web spider, Teach me the art of your craft To capture my dreams. |

Work Cited: *Haiku* by Margaret Furness Maclead