

MATH 128

Instructor: Denise Chellsen

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Phone: 546-3100 ext. 2779

Student Office Hours: Mon/Wed 12:00 – 1:30

Thurs 11:00 – 12:00

Fri: 8:00 – 9:00

*plus additional times announced each week
depending on my meeting schedule*

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**“Always bear in mind that your own
resolution to succeed is more important
than any one thing.”**

-Abraham Lincoln

WELCOME to MATH 128:

I look forward to getting to know each of you during the upcoming semester. As I mentioned in the welcome e-mail, I am excited to teach Math 128 again this semester as students continually relay to me that they appreciate the more authentic content of the course and the comradery among peers in the classroom to help with math achievement. Most students seem to enjoy the richer conceptual and applied material. We will be using statistical and algebraic thinking in real life context while deemphasizing some of the detailed algebra in the traditional two course algebra sequence. Students who successfully take this course have a high level of commitment to learning the material, completing the assignments and helping others achieve their best. I look forward to sharing this mathematical journey with you and hope that you find it to be a meaningful experience.

COURSE MATERIALS:

We will be using the text Applied Elementary and Intermediate Algebra, Custom Edition; Lehmann *Note: This textbook is available only through the Cuesta College Bookstore (or from recent Cuesta Math 128 students) since it contains parts of two separate books by Lehmann.* You should also own a scientific calculator for this class. It is helpful to use one that has a complete display showing the calculation across the screen. Please note: graphing calculators, cell phones or internet access devices are not permitted to be used as calculators on quizzes and exams.

ABOUT THE COURSE:

This course was developed as an alternative pathway for liberal arts type majors or other majors that do not need trigonometry, calculus and certain science courses. Please make sure you have consulted a counselor to confirm your math pathway. This course fulfills the math requirement for some of Cuesta College's Associate's Degrees, serves as a prerequisite for several Cuesta programs, and prepares you for four transfer level math courses: Math 247 Statistics, Math 232 College Algebra, Math 230 Math for Humanities, and/or Math 220 Math for Elementary School Teachers. This course covers topics in pre-statistics such as real data sets, histograms, measures of spread, and probability. In addition, core algebraic concepts from both Elementary and Intermediate Algebra are covered such as equations, lines, systems of equations, functions, and logarithms with real world applications.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing this course you should feel a level of confidence with following outcomes:

1. Apply techniques of descriptive statistics to display and analyze data.
2. Determine an appropriate mathematical model to analyze an authentic application problem.
3. Utilize algebraic skills accurately as they are applied to mathematical problem solving.
4. Interpret and communicate the results of mathematical inquiry at a depth appropriate to the course level.

DSPS:

Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact Disabled Student Services & Programs at Building 3300 on SLO Campus (805-546-3148) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

CLASS POLICIES:

- Attend class regularly for your best chance of success. You may be dropped after 5 absences, so please stay in touch with me about any extenuating circumstances. As a reminder, in college, deadlines are maintained whether students are in class or not. So be sure you know the policies for missing classes that have graded assignments or assessments noted on the calendar.
- Please be respectful of the class and arrive on time and leave when class is over. If there is a day where you need to leave early, please let me know at the beginning of class.
- Brain research shows we learn best when we focus and eliminate distractions. Therefore, only use cell phones and internet devices for the learning of mathematics during class in order to maintain a solid learning environment for everyone in the class.
- If you experience extenuating circumstances during the semester, I invite you to come talk with me about possible temporary flexibility for the course to help you succeed through the difficult period of time.
- Check Canvas for e-mail announcements, homework, grades, notes from class, the course calendar, and other resources. You may access Canvas via the link <https://cuesta.instructure.com> and use your Cuesta login or go through myCuesta Student Tab.. There is also a Canvas app for smart phones.
- Requests for make-up exams due to an **excused** (school sports, business trip, class field trip etc.) pre-planned absence must be given at least one week in advance and the exam must be taken **prior** to the actual exam date. If you become ill or have another **excused** circumstance, in order to be considered for a make up exam you should
 1. E-mail or call me **BEFORE** the exam
 2. Receive and e-mail confirmation from me that a make-up exam will be allowed with time/day
 3. Turn in the **completed** relevant homework packet the day of the approved makeup exam
- Cheating policy: Although it is rarely an issue, I want to give a heads up that cheating is taken very seriously at the collegiate level. The minimum penalty for anyone cheating on an exam or quiz is an automatic zero on the relevant exam/quiz as well as the submission of a written report to the Vice President of Student Affairs.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE:

- In addition to my posted student hours (office hours), I will regularly announce times you can find me in my office. In addition, a Math 128 embedded tutor will have regular hours available for help outside of class.
- The Student Success Center is open daily for drop in tutoring upstairs in building 3300 (and on the North county campus). <https://www.cuesta.edu/student/resources/ssc/index.html> . Please see the extra handout for the names of tutors in the Success Center who are familiar with Math 128.
- Cuesta has free access to NetTutor which provides online math tutoring 7 days a week in both English and Spanish
https://www.cuesta.edu/student/resources/ssc/tutorial_services/online_tutor.html
- New textbooks come with a code for MyMathLab which gives access to free videos and extra practice.
- The textbooks for all of the math courses are available at the reserve desk in the library. If practice is needed on a prerequisite algebra skill, the Prealgebra (Math 007) textbook would be helpful.
- Video websites like <http://www.mathispower4u.com> <http://www.khanacademy.org/>
<http://www.mathtv.com/> have video lessons on numerous math topics.

POINT STRUCTURE:

Grading in the course will be based on the total number of points earned.

- 500 pts. **EXAMS** Five 100 point exams will be given. Please see class policies about excused absences.

- 60 pts **GROUPWORK** There will be seven graded group work assignments, each worth 10 points.
One score will be dropped to allow for an absence due to illness, etc. If you turn in all graded group work, the lowest score will be dropped.

- 80 pts. **QUIZZES** Five 20 point quizzes will be given. One quiz score will be dropped to allow for an absence due to illness, work obligations, etc. If you take all five quizzes, your lowest score will be dropped. No make up quizzes will be given for the first missed quiz. If you must miss a second quiz, let me know in advance so we can coordinate a make-up.

- 20 pts. **CLASS WORK** A problem or written response from class will be randomly collected, each worth 2 points. The lowest (or missing) score will be dropped to allow for an absence due to illness, etc.

- 90 pts. **HOMEWORK** Homework packets will be due at the beginning of class on quiz and exam days as noted on the calendar. The homework cover pages are posted online. The lowest score will be dropped to allow for homework forgotten at home or other unforeseen issues. If you are absent on the due date, you can turn in homework to my mailbox in the Math office, scan it and e-mail it, or mail it postmarked by the due date:
Denise Chellsen, Math Dept, Cuesta College, P.O. Box 8106, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403.

- 150 pts. **FINAL** A cumulative final will be given at the end of the course. At the end of the semester, your lowest exam score will be replaced with your percentage on the final exam, only if it is to your advantage IF 1) you earn a 70% or higher on the final exam 2) you earn 70% or more of the points on the material related to the exam being replaced.

- 900 pts. **Total**

The grading scale will be based on the percentage of the total points earned as follows:

A 90.0 – 100.0%	A- 89.1 – 89.9%	
B+ 86.0 – 89.0%	B 80.0 – 85.9%	B- 79.1 – 79.9%
C+ 76.0 – 79.0%	C 70.0 – 75.9%	
	D 60.0 – 69.9%	D- 59.1 – 59.9%
	F 59% and below	