

Math 1201, Section 4 — Fall, 2008

MWF 12:40-1:30 Lockett 244

Instructor: Leah Childers

Office: 327 Lockett

Email: leah@math.lsu.edu

Office hours: (To be announced)

Prerequisites: None.

Goals: This course is a mathematics course focusing on elementary school mathematics. The main goal, of course, is to acquire a solid knowledge of that material. But an elementary school mathematics teacher needs to know much more, including: (i) how to present the material in the simplest, clearest way, (ii) the appropriate sequential order for developing mathematics skills, and (iii) what the students will find difficult and what errors they are likely to make, and (iv) how each topic helps advance the mathematical level of the students.

Texts:

- *Elementary Mathematics for Teachers*, by Thomas H. Parker and Scott Baldrige.
- *Primary Mathematics textbooks (U.S. Edition)* — Primary Mathematics 3A, 4A, 5A, and 6A and Workbook 5A. Students using this elementary school curriculum were tested as the best in the world. We will do many problems from these books.

It is hoped that all these books will also be useful after you begin your teaching career.

Expectations: Classes will be primarily lectures, with problem solving individually and in small groups. You are expected to take complete notes, to participate in class activities, and to ask questions about what you do not understand. Attendance will be taken.

Grading Policy: There will be 3 hourly exams, a final exam, and homework/quizzes/special assignments, with percentages as shown below. Missed exams will count as 0 points. Only under rare circumstances (such as illness with a doctor's written excuse) will a make-up exam be given. If you do miss a test, please contact me by e-mail **no later than** the day of the test.

The grading scale is straightforward:

90% - 100% = A
80% - 89.9% = B
70% - 79.9% = C
60% - 69.9% = D
below 60% = F

This grading scale will not be curved, even at the end of the semester. All grades are based on how well each student learns the material, so grades are not competitive. Grades in Math 1201 are based on understanding, not upon comparisons with other students.

Semester grades:	3 in Class Exams	40%
	4 POW's (no make-ups!)	10%
	Daily assignments & Quizzes (no make-ups!)	25%
	Final Exam	25%

Homework and Quizzes: Mathematics is learned by practice, and confidence is gained through mastery of the material. Homework will be assigned daily in class and is due at the beginning of the next class. There might be occasional quizzes. Homework and quizzes will count 25% of your grade. This will be done according to the following point system: over the semester 250–300 points will be given in graded homework and quizzes. If you earn 200 point you will get the full 25%, otherwise your score will be proportional to how you did out of 200 points. It will take consistent effort on these assignments to earn 200 points.

You should plan on spending at least 2 hours of homework for each class meeting. It is essential not to get behind; we will work at a brisk pace.

You are encouraged to work in groups on difficult homework problems. This doesn't mean that you should copy from someone or allow someone to copy from you. Rather, you should explain the difficult problems and solutions to one another to help each other understand.

Do not let yourself get behind the class! As in most math courses, the material progressively builds upon itself. If you do not understand a particular topic ask in class or in office hours.

Calculators: Calculators will not be used for this class, and will not be allowed for exams. A successful elementary school teacher should be confident and comfortable solving problems mentally and on paper. One of the goals of this course is to develop that facility.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance is mandatory and extremely crucial to your success in this class. Attending regularly is a necessity so as not to get behind. Once behind, it is difficult to “catch up.” Attending “regularly” does not mean 2 days out of 3. Even if you “only” miss one class a week, you are missing 1/3 of the material. That means you start the class with approximately 67%.

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what is covered in class and what the assignment is. You are expected to have all work completed when you return to class and be prepared for class. Get the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of at least 2 classmates and contact them for information.

Academic Honesty: All students are responsible for adhering to the highest standards of honesty and integrity in every aspect of their academic careers. The penalties for academic dishonesty can be severe and ignorance is not an acceptable defense at Louisiana State University. The LSU Student Code of Conduct can be accessed at

[http://appl003.lsu.edu/slas/dos.nsf/\\$Content/Code+of+Conduct?OpenDocument](http://appl003.lsu.edu/slas/dos.nsf/$Content/Code+of+Conduct?OpenDocument)

Learning Disabilities: Students with unique learning needs are encouraged to see me during office hours to discuss course requirements and approved accommodations. Students who seek information about disability services should contact the Office of Disability Services, 112 Johnston Hall at 225/ 578-5919.

Important dates:

- Monday, September 1— No Class, Labor Day
- Friday, October 10 — No Class, Fall Break
- Friday, November 28 — No Class, Thanksgiving
- Friday, December 5 — Last day of class
- Thursday, December 11 — Final Exam, 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Daily Schedule:

Date	Bring to class	Section/Topic	Read	Homework Set
August 25 (M)		1.1/Counting	Preface, About, §1.1	HW Set 1
27 (W)		1.2/Place Value	§1.2	Set 2
29 (F)		1.3/Adding	§1.3 & §2.1	Set 3
September 8 (M)		1.4/Subtracting	§1.4	Set 4
10 (W)		1.5/Multiplying	§1.5	Set 5
12 (F)	3A	1.6/Division	§1.5 & §1.7	Set 6
15 (M)	3A & 5A	2.1 & 2.2/Mental Math	All of Chapter 2	Set 7 and Prob's 1 & 2 in Set 8
17 (W)	3A & 5A	2.2 & 2.3/Word Problems	Intro to Chapter 3	Finish Set 8 Do Set 9
19 (F)	3A	3.1/Add. Alg.	§3.1	Set 10
22 (M)	3A	3.2 & 3.3/Sub. Alg.	§3.2 & §3.3	Set 11
24 (W)	3A	3.3/Mult. Alg.	§3.3	Set 12 & Memorize squares up to 20
26 (F)	3A	3.4/Div. Alg.	§3.4	Set 13
29 (M)	4A & WB 5A	3.5/Estimation	§3.5	Set 14
October 1 (W)		Review for Exam 1		
3 (F)		Exam 1		
4 (S)	5A & 5A	3.5/Long Div.	§3.6	Set 15
6 (M)	6A	4.1/Prealgebra	§4.1	Prob's 3, 5, and 6 of Set 16
8 (W)	6A	4.1/Prealgebra	§4.1	Finish Set 16
10 (F)		4.2/Identities	§4.2	Set 17
13 (M)		4.3/Exponents	§4.3	Set 18
15 (W)	4A	5.1/Definitions	§5.1	Set 19
17 (F)		5.2/Div. Test	§5.2	Do 1–5 of Set 20
20 (M)		5.2 & 5.3/Primes	§5.3	Finish Set 20, do Set 21
22 (W)		5.4/More Primes	§5.4	Set 22
24 (F)	3A & 4A	6.1/Fractions	§6.1	Set 24
27 (M)	4A & 5A	6.2/More Fractions	§6.2	Set 25
29 (W)	5A	6.3/Fract. Mult.	§6.3	Set 26
31 (F)	5A	6.4/Fract. Div.	§6.4	Set 27
November 3 (M)		6.5/Div. Prob's	§6.5	Set 28

5 (W)		Review for Exam 2		
7 (F)		Exam 2		
10 (M)		6.6/Prealgebra	§6.6	Set 29
12 (W)	5A, 5A WB, 6A	7.1 & 7.2/Ratios	§7.1 & §7.2	Set 30
14 (F)	6A	7.2/Proportions	§7.2	Set 31
17 (M)	6A	7.3/Percents	§7.3	Set 32
19 (W)		8.1/Neg. Numbers	§8.1	Set 34
21 (F)		8.2/Integers	§8.2	Set 35
24 (M)		Review for Exam 3		
26 (W)		Exam 3		
December 1 (M)	4A & 5A	9.1/Decimals	§9.1	Set 37
3 (W)	4A & 5A	9.2/Rational Numb.	§9.2	Set 38
5 (F)		9.3/Real Numb.	§9.3	Set 39
11 (Th)		Final Exam		