TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SAN ANTONIO
MATH 1332_01L/0332_01L Contemporary Mathematics

Course Information

Instructor: Anthony Herrera
Class Meeting: MWF 9:00-9:50, 10:00-10:50
Semester: Fall 2026
E-mail: aherrera1@tamusa.edu
Office: TBA
Help Sessions (Office hours): TBA

Credit hours: 3 credits MATH
Course Overview: Intended for Non-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) majors. Topics include introductory treatments of sets and logic, financial mathematics, probability and statistics with appropriate applications. Number sense, proportional reasoning, estimation, technology, and communication are embedded throughout the course. Additional topics may be covered.

Required Course Materials

- Notebook for class handouts, notes, etc.
- Calculator (TI-30XIIS is highly recommended)

Grading Policy

Graded Course Elements & Percentage Breakdown:

- **Homework:** 15%
- **Classwork and Participation:** 10%
- **Unit Tests (3):** 45%
- **Projects (2):** 30%

Grade Scale for MATH 1332:
90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D Below 60% = F

Grading Guidelines

- No late homework, classwork, projects, or tests will be allowed without prior approval, and individual make-up exams will be given in rare cases and only with instructor approval.
- The lowest homework grade will be dropped at the end of the semester.

- The final examination is a comprehensive exam and will be **optional**; a student may opt to take the final to replace a low or missing test or project grade.
- The grading policy may be amended during the semester at the instructor's discretion.

Student Learner Objectives

Students will explore ways in which mathematics is used in, and is part of, our world and everyday life. We will explore some topics from different areas of mathematics to experience a breath of material that can help us gain a sense of mathematical perspectives and relate to our specific areas of interest. The goal is for students to learn to see not only how useful mathematics is and how it helps us look through different lens, but also how beautiful mathematics can be.

In particular, students will be able to:

1. Identify and apply fundamental problem-solving processes as related to their disciplines of interest.
2. Interpret and apply set terminology, set operations and Venn diagrams to represent information and analyze results.
3. Identify simple and compound statements, express statements in symbolic form, and construct truth tables to draw conclusions and formulate arguments.
4. Apply proportions and percentages to solve real-world applications.
5. Graph and interpret graphs of various functions to include linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions and associated growth relationships.
6. Apply financial analysis including compound interest, annuities, and amortization.
7. Compute and interpret theoretical and empirical probabilities to simple, independent, and dependent events that include basic counting using permutations, and combinations.
8. Describe and analyze normally distributed data to include computing and interpreting measures of central tendency, dispersion and linear relations.
9. Identify and apply basic geometric concepts in various natural states and everyday applications.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply the language and notation of sets.
2. Determine the validity of an argument or statement and provide mathematical evidence.
3. Solve problems in mathematics of finance.

4. Demonstrate fundamental probability/counting techniques and apply those techniques to solve problems.
5. Interpret and analyze various representations of data.
6. Demonstrate the ability to choose and analyze mathematical models to solve problems from real-world settings, including, but not limited to, personal finance, health literacy, and civic engagement.

Course Requirements and Expectations

Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend class sessions on campus. Be aware of what has been covered in every class and any announcements and course policy changes made in class. Announcements and changes will also be communicated through Blackboard. You are welcome to ask questions during class, or if you prefer, visit me during office hours.

Classwork and Participation Tasks: In this class, we will have scheduled class meetings. Please let your instructor know if you need to miss class for any reason. For additional information or details, you can also check posted information, assignments, and announcements in Blackboard. We will have frequent activities in class, which may occasionally result in a classwork or participation grade. Because classwork will be collected during class sessions, it is important that you attend class!

Homework: All homework will be distributed in class and also posted on Blackboard, and will generally be due the next class period. If you miss class, please check Blackboard for the assignment so that you will have it ready to turn in when you return to class. In general, no late assignments will be accepted nor make-ups allowed without prior approval. At the end of the semester, the lowest HW grade will be dropped.

Tests: Three unit tests are scheduled during the semester. A comprehensive final exam will also be offered but will be **optional** to replace a missing or low test grade. For each unit test, students will work collaboratively in class to complete the tasks, so it is important that you don't miss class that day. In case you miss an exam or find out that you will miss an exam, you should contact me either in person or by e-mail, at least one week in advance of the exam for non-emergency cases or within 24-hrs of the scheduled exam date for emergency cases. Any missed exam counts as a 0 unless the student has a valid documented excuse and contacts me as soon as possible after the excuse for missing the test arises. Examples of valid documented excuses are sickness (documented with a doctor's note), death in the family (with documentation), attending university-sponsored events with a Dean's excuse, etc. Other than described above, no make-up exams will be given, but the final exam can replace your lowest test grade. Please contact me ASAP if you have concerns about the testing dates.

Projects: Two projects are scheduled during the semester. A comprehensive final exam will also be offered but will be **optional** to replace a missing or low project grade. For each project, students will work collaboratively both in class and outside of class to complete the tasks. In the event that you cannot complete a project, you should contact me either in

person or by e-mail, at least one week in advance of the project due date for non-emergency cases or within 24-hrs of the scheduled project due date for emergency cases. Any missed project counts as a 0 unless the student has a valid documented excuse and contacts me as soon as possible after the excuse for missing the project arises. Examples of valid documented excuses are the same as those listed above for tests. Other than described above, no make-up projects or late projects will be allowed, but the final exam can replace your missing project grade. Please contact me ASAP if you have concerns about the project dates.

Tentative Test and Project Due Dates: *Specific dates for tests and projects will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard.*

Final Exam: The final examination is a comprehensive exam and will be **optional**; a student may opt to take the final to replace a low or missing test or project grade. If a student chooses to take the final exam, it will be offered during Final Exam week according to the posted Final Exam schedule.

Gradebook: All student grades will be posted Blackboard so that you are aware of your overall average at all times. Please check the Blackboard gradebook periodically to verify grades, and please notify the instructor of any discrepancies.

Class Rules

1. Regular participation and attendance are **very important** in this class! Assignments will be due throughout the week, based on class activities.
2. Please come to class ready to learn. Minimize distractions by putting away cell phones or laptops if not needed for class work.
3. Making mistakes and asking questions are part of the learning process, so please don't be afraid to ask questions, or to try something even if you aren't sure if it's correct. There are typically several ways to solve a problem or arrive at a conclusion, so be open-minded and willing to share your thoughts.
4. If you need additional help, please ask! Your instructor is available to help, and students also have access to free tutoring through the ALC.

Important University Policies and Resources

University Email Policy and Course Communications: All correspondence between professors and students must occur via University email accounts. You must have your Jaguar email account ready and working. If it is not working, contact the help desk at helpdesk@tamusa.edu or at 210-784-HELP (4357).

Academic Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are federal anti-discrimination statutes that provide comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Title II of the ADAAA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

require that students with disabilities be guaranteed equal access to the learning environment through the provision of reasonable and appropriate accommodation of their disability. If you have a diagnosed disability that may require an accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for the coordination of services. DSS is located at the Main Campus on the 2nd floor of the Central Academic Building in suite 210. The phone number for DSS is (210) 784-1335 and email is dss@tamusa.edu.

Academic Learning Center: All currently enrolled students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio can utilize the Academic Learning Center for subject-area tutoring. The Academic Learning Center is an appointment-based center where appointments are made through the Navigate platform. You can contact the Academic Learning Center by emailing tutoring@tamusa.edu or calling (210)784-1332.

Counseling Resources: As a college student, there may be a time when personal stressors interfere with your academic performance and/or negatively impact your daily functioning. If you or someone you know is experiencing life stressors, emotional difficulties, or mental health concerns at A&M-SA, please contact the Office of Student Counseling & Wellness Services (SC & WS) located in Modular C Room 166 (Rear entrance) or call 210-784-1331.

Emergency Preparedness: JagE Alert is Texas A&M University-San Antonio's mass notification. To register or update your information visit the JagE Alert Portal.

Financial Aid and Verification of Attendance: According to the following federal regulation, 34 CFR 668.21: U.S. Department of Education (DoE) Title IV regulation, a student can only receive Title IV funds based on Title IV eligibility criteria which include class attendance.

Jaguar Writing Center: The Jaguar Writing Center provides writing support to graduate and undergraduate students in all three colleges.

Meeting Basic Needs: Any student who has difficulty affording groceries or accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live, and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact the Dean of Students (DOS@tamusa.edu) for support.

Military Affairs: Veterans and active-duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, and special circumstances. Contact the Office of Military Affairs at military@tamusa.edu or (210)784-1397.

Religious Observances: Texas A&M University-San Antonio 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.

Respect for Diversity: We understand that our students represent diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

The Six-Drop Rule: Students are subject to the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1231 passed by the Texas Legislature in 2007.

Statement of Harassment and Discrimination: Texas A&M University-San Antonio is

committed to the fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity and human dignity.

Electronic Devices: The use of phones or other electronic devices for non-class related activities is not allowed. Anyone who is observed text messaging or using an electronic device during class for a non-class related purpose will be given a warning, and as a further action that person will be asked to drop the class.

COVID-19 Syllabus Statement: The safety of our campus community is paramount to our ability to provide our students, faculty, and staff with a productive and secure learning and working environment. While masks are not required, we do encourage everyone to wear a mask, particularly inside the buildings, in order to reduce the spread of covid-19.

Important Dates

- **August 20:** Tuition & Fee Payments deadline
- **August 24:** First day of class
- **September 7:** Labor Day Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
- **September 9:** Census Date – Students not paid in full or enrolled in a payment plan by 4:59 pm may be dropped for non-payment
- **October 5 – October 16:** Midterm grading period
- **November 13:** Last day to drop with an automatic "W"
- **November 25:** Study Day – No classes
- **November 26-November 28:** Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes / University Closed
- **December 4:** Last day of classes

Generative AI Policy

Option 1 - No Use of Generative AI Permitted: Math 1332 assumes that all work submitted by students will be generated by the students themselves, working individually or in groups. Students should not have another person/entity do the writing of any portion of an assignment for them, which includes hiring a person or a company to write assignments and/or using artificial intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT. Use of any AI-generated content in this course qualifies as academic dishonesty and violates Texas A&M-San Antonio's standards of academic integrity.