Course description: Elementary concepts of sets, numeration systems, number theory, and properties of the natural numbers, integers, rational, and real number systems with an emphasis on problem solving and critical thinking.

Core Objectives (CO):

1. **Critical Thinking [CO 1]**: to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
2. **Communication Skills [CO 2]**: to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills [CO 3]**: to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

Credit hours: 3

The following is an excerpt from SFA Policy 5.4:

*The federal definition of a credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates:*

1. **Not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or 10 to 12 weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time, or;**
2. **At least an equivalent amount of work as outlined in item 1 above for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.**

To this end, all students in courses offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics that wish to be successful should plan to spend a minimum of two hours outside of class for every credit hour associated with this course. Expected activities to be completed in the time outside of class include reviewing notes from previous class meetings, reading assigned course resources, completing all assigned exercises and projects, and performing periodic assessment preparation.

Course Prerequisites and Corequisites: See general course prerequisites.

**General Education Core Curriculum:** This course has been selected to be part of SFA’s core curriculum. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has identified six objectives for all core courses: Critical Thinking Skills, Communication Skills, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, Teamwork, Personal Responsibility, and Social Responsibility. SFA is committed to the improvement of its general education core curriculum by regular assessment of student performance on these six objectives. Assessment of these objectives at SFA will be based on student work from all core curriculum courses. This student work will be collected in D2L, the assessment management system selected by SFA to collect student work for core assessment.

The chart below indicates the core objectives identified by SFA to be assessed in this course. The instructor of each section of the course will provide the assignment(s) that will be used to assess the objectives as well as the date(s) by which the assignments must be completed and uploaded in D2L.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Objective</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Course Assignment Title</th>
<th>Date Due in D2L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication Skills</td>
<td>To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas though written, oral, and visual communication.</td>
<td>The instructor of each section will determine the assignment for this assessment.</td>
<td>Only assessed in the fall of even years (See instructor of your section for due date(s).)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Course outline:

- Techniques of problem solving and estimation skills [CO 1, 2, 3]  
  Explicit instruction in Critical Thinking, Communication and Empirical and Quantitative Reasoning is in addition to implicit instruction, modeling and practice that occur daily in the discussion of numbers and operations. This explicit instruction includes explanation of solving mathematical problems by thinking critically, communicating logically ordered solutions with complete and correct notation, and applying empirical or quantitative skills as appropriate to the problem. The following topics will be threaded throughout the course in order to develop the habits of mind necessary to be successful in mathematics:
  - Introduce Polya’s Problem Solving Process: Understand the Problem, Devise a Plan, Carry Out Plan, Look Back
  - Explore Basic Problem Solving Strategies
  - Explore Patterns in Language, Figures, Numbers, Sequences and Geometry
  - Develop Estimation Skills with Mental Arithmetic
  - Investigate temperature as a form of measurement

- Whole Numbers and Numeration: Concepts and Algorithms [CO 1, 2, 3]  
  - Define the Set of Whole Numbers
  - Model Whole Number Operations using a Variety of Methods
  - Verify Properties of Operations: Binary Operation; Closed, Commutative, Associative, Distributive Property of Multiplication over Addition, Identities, Multiplication by Zero; Division Algorithm
  - Explore Place Value Systems using Base Five Arithmetic
  - Develop and Apply Algorithms for Whole Number Operations
  - Develop Definition and Properties for Whole Number Exponents

- Number Theory: An Introduction [CO 1, 2, 3]  
  - Define and Explore Primes and Composites
  - Explore Basic Divisibility Properties of Sums and Products
  - Explore Applications of the Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic
  - Define the GCD and LCM and Use Algorithms for Finding Each

- Integers: Concepts and Algorithms [CO 1, 2, 3]  
  - Model Integer Operations Using a Variety of Methods
  - Investigate Extensions of Whole Number Operations and their Properties: Closed, Commutative, Associative, Distributive Property of Multiplication over Addition, Identities, Additive Inverse, Multiplication by Zero

- Real Numbers: Concepts and Algorithms [CO 1, 2, 3]  
  - Investigate Practical Uses for Fractions
  - Explore Connections between Fractions, Rational Numbers, Decimals, and Percents
  - Investigate Order of Numbers in Decimal Form
  - Illustrate the Pythagorean Theorem
  - Develop Proportional Thinking to Include Ratio and Proportion, Properties of Proportions, Fundamental Law of Fractions

- Explicit instruction in Critical Thinking, Communication and Empirical and Quantitative Reasoning is in addition to implicit instruction, modeling and practice that occur daily in the discussion of numbers and operations. This explicit instruction includes explanation of solving mathematical problems by thinking critically, communicating logically ordered solutions with complete and correct notation, and applying empirical or quantitative skills as appropriate to the problem.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

The penalty for a student found cheating on any part of an assignment, quiz, or exam in this class will range from a grade of zero on the work to a grade of F in the course, and may result in additional, more severe disciplinary measures. A student who allows another to copy his work and the student copying the work are both guilty of cheating. Do your own work. Do not show your completed work to others. Do not allow others to copy your work.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty (SFA policy 4.1):
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- using or attempting to use unauthorized materials on any class assignment or exam;
- falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
- helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- submitting an assignment as one’s own work when it is at least partly the work of another person;
- submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source;
- incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Withheld Grades Semester Grades (SFA Policy 5.5)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy 10.4). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO): At the end of MTH 127, a student who has studied and learned the material should be able to:

1. Solve a variety of problems using multiple problem-solving techniques. [CO 1,3]
2. Demonstrate understanding of core concepts underlying standard and non-standard algorithmic procedures for performing operations on subsets of real numbers. [CO 1,3]
3. Communicate his/her knowledge effectively in multiple formats – verbally, concretely, and in writing. [CO 2]
4. Define, identify, and use the fundamental properties of real number operations. [CO 3]
5. Provide logical justification of mathematical thinking. [CO 1]
6. Use mathematical language and notation appropriately to communicate ideas. [CO 2]

There are no specific program learning outcomes for this major addressed in this course. It is a general education core curriculum course and/or a service course.

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