**BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**of the City University of New York**

**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**SYLLABUS for MTH 21.5 – A Mathematical World with Algebra** (3 credits, meets 5 hours per week)

**Prerequisite:** None. Students with Math Proficiency Index less than 40 are strongly encouraged to enroll in Math Start or CUNY Start before taking college-level mathematics courses.

**Co-requisite:** None.

**Textbooks:** 1. “Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey” by D. Johnson and T. Mowry, 8th edition

Cengage Learning, 2015. ISBN: 9781305104174

2. “MTH 5 Lecture Notes” by A. McInerney, available at <https://fsw01.bcc.cuny.edu/mathdepartment/Courses/Math/MTH05/05text0916b-hyper.pdf>

3. “Arithmetic: A Textbook for Math 01” by A. Weaver, available at

<https://fsw01.bcc.cuny.edu/mathdepartment/Courses/Math/MTH01/ArithBook5thEd.pdf>

**Calculator:** Scientific calculator (suggested: TI-36X Pro)

**Course Description:** This course aims to introduce liberal arts students to the important mathematical concepts of sets, numbers, probability, statistics, and geometry. Students will learn how to analyze quantitative information, and how to make inferences and predictions about events around us. Further topics covered include financial management and linear programming. The following material from elementary algebra has been integrated into the course to provide the necessary background: fractions, decimals, percentages, radicals, functions, polynomials, linear and quadratic equations, literal equations, systems of equations, inequalities in one and two variables. This course is equivalent to MTH 21 A Mathematical World in academic content and for the purposes of transfer and grade replacement.

**Purpose:** This course covers the full content of MTH 21, A Mathematical World, with supplemental instruction in elementary algebra for students who are not Math Proficient by CUNY standards. This course is not for STEM or Business Administration AS majors and is not a prerequisite for any higher-level mathematics course.  
  
This course is a **Pathways Core B (Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning) Course**:  
This course meets the following learning outcomes. A student will:

1. Interpret and draw appropriate inferences from quantitative representations, such as formulas, graphs, or tables.
2. Use algebraic, numerical, graphical, or statistical methods to draw accurate conclusions and solve mathematical problems.
3. Represent quantitative problems expressed in natural language in a suitable mathematical format.
4. Effectively communicate quantitative analysis or solutions to mathematical problems in written or oral form.
5. Evaluate solutions to problems for reasonableness using a variety of means, including informed estimation.
6. Apply mathematical methods to problems in other fields of study.

**Student Learning Objectives (SLOs):** Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Perform operations with signed numbers and fractions. Solve and graph linear equations. Solve literal equations. Evaluate algebraic expressions and solve word problems. Evaluate functions and graph linear functions. (a, b)
2. Use the language of sets (membership, union, intersection and complement) to analyze and solve problems. (a, b, c, f)
3. Sort, analyze and present numerical data using sample spaces and measures of central tendency. (a, b, f)
4. Recognize the families of prime, composite and perfect numbers. (b, c, d, f)
5. Predict experimental outcomes using basic techniques of probability (permutations, combinations, counting techniques, tree diagrams). (b, c, d, e, f)
6. Manage personal finances through a basic understanding of financial instruments such as loans, mortgages, and annuities. (b, c, d, e, f)
7. Understand the geometric concepts of perimeter and area and recognize fractals. (a, b, c, f)
8. Solve systems of linear equations and linear inequalities in two variables. (a, b)
9. Optimize a function subject to constraints using the methods of linear programming. (a, b, c, d, e, f)

**Pathways:** This course may be used to satisfy Category B (Mathematical and Quantitative Reasoning) of the CUNY Pathways Required Core.

**Week 1 Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes Homework**

* 1.1 – 1.8 Review of fractions Exercises p. 14 1-6, p. 16 1-6
* Chapters 1 – 4 in textbook 3: Arithmetic

Review decimals, rounding, percentages Exercises from sections 4.1-4.4, 4.11

* 2.1 – 2.6 Signed numbers, exponents, square roots Exercises p. 28 1-15, p. 31 1-6, p. 32 1-5
* 3.1 Order of operations Exercises p. 39 1-8

**Week 2 Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes**

* 3.2 – 3.3 Algebraic expressions Exercises p. 43 1-10
* 3.4 – 3.5 Translating algebraic expressions Exercises p. 46 1-8
* 4.1 Algebraic statements and solutions Exercises p. 55 1-15 (odd)
* 4.2 Solving linear equations in one variable Exercises p. 67 1-15 (odd)

**Week 3 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey Homework**

* 2.1 Sets and set operations Exercises 1, 7, 9, 17-25 (odd), 29, 41-49 (odd)
* 2.2 Applications of Venn diagrams Exercises 1, 3, 5, 27-31 (odd)
* 2.3 Introduction to Combinatorics Exercises 1, 5, 15, 17, 23-35 (odd)

**Week 4 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 2.4 Permutations and combinations Exercises 1, 3, 5, 13, 15, 19-37 (odd), 49, 53
* 2.5 Infinite sets Exercises 1, 3, 5, 11, 15, 17

**Week 5 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 4.1 Population, sample and data Exercises 1, 5, 7, 15, 23, 27
* 4.2 Measures of central tendency Exercises 1, 11, 15, 17, 19, 21
* Supplement: percentiles

**Week 6 Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes**

* 6.1 Introduction to polynomials Exercises p. 143 1-8
* 6.2 Adding and subtracting polynomials Exercises p. 148 1-7
* 6.3 Properties of exponents Exercises p. 155 1-8

**Midterm Exam Review**

**Week 7 Midterm Exam**

**Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes**

* 8.1 Quadratic equations, number systems
* 8.2 Radical expressions Exercises p. 209 1-15
* 4.3 Solving literal equations Exercises p. 71 1-5

**Week 8 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 7.4 Prime numbers and perfect numbers Exercises 3, 5, 9, 13, 15, 17
* 7.5 Fibonacci numbers, the golden ratio Exercises 1, 3, 5, 9, 11 (if discussed in class)

**Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes**

* 4.4 – 4.5 Linear inequalities in 1 variable Exercises p. 82 1-6

**Week 9 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 3.1 History of probability Exercises 1-8 (some of these hands on   
   exercises may be done in class)
* 3.2 Basic terms of probability Exercises 1-28
* 3.3 Basic rules of probability Exercises 11-25 (odd), 47-53 (odd)

**Week 10 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 3.4 Combinatorics and probability Exercises 1-13 (odd), 21
* 5.1 Simple interest Exercises 5-19 (odd), 37
* 5.2 Compound interest Exercises 1-19 (odd), 29, 31, 35

**Week 11 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 5.3 Annuities Exercises 1, 3, 5, 9, 19
* 5.4 Amortized loans Exercises 1-9 (odd)
* 8.1 Perimeter and area Exercises 1-23 (odd)

**Week 12 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey Homework**

* 8.9 Fractal geometry Exercises 1, 3, 23, 27, 29

**Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes**

* 5.1 Linear equations in two variables Exercises p. 94 1-8
* 5.2 Slope and the geometry of lines Exercises p. 114 1-11

**Week 13 Elementary Algebra Lecture Notes**

* 5.3 Linear inequalities in two variables Exercises p. 124 1-6
* 5.4 – 5.5 Systems of linear equations Exercises p. 135 1-8

**Week 14 Mathematics, A Practical Odyssey**

* 12.0 Review of linear inequalities Exercises 1-19 (odd)
* 12.1 Linear programming Exercises 1-11 (odd)

**Final Exam Review**

**Academic Integrity:** Academic dishonesty (such as plagiarism and cheating) is prohibited at Bronx Community College and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, dismissal and expulsion. For additional information and the full policy on Academic Integrity, please consult the BCC College Catalog.

**Accommodations/Disabilities:** Bronx Community College respects and welcomes students of all backgrounds and abilities. In the event you encounter any barrier(s) to full participation in this course due to the impact of a disability, please contact the disAbility Services Office as soon as possible this semester.  The disAbility Services specialists will meet with you to discuss the barriers you are experiencing and explain the eligibility process for establishing academic accommodations for this course. You can reach the disAbility Services Office at: [disability.services@bcc.cuny.edu](mailto:disability.services@bcc.cuny.edu), Loew Hall, Room 211, (718) 289-5874.

NN, COS 4/3/21

Updated for Spring 2022 semester by NN

NN, COS Fall 2022