# Mathematics 215
## Principles of Mathematics I
### Spring 2016

**Text:**            A Problem Solving Approach to Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers, 12th edition
by Billstein, Liebeskind, and Lott (**Text must include a Student Access Kit for MyMathLab**.)

**Instructor:**     Jim Castro

**Office Hours:**    W 10:00 pm - 11 pm in MS 108, TTH 9:20 pm -10:20 pm in MS103 or by appointment

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**COURSE PREREQUISITE:** A grade of C or better in Intermediate Algebra (Math 125).  You may not request or obtain an add permit if you do not satisfy this prerequisite. Successful completion of Plane Geometry (Math 120) is advised.

**COURSE CONTENT:** This is a course designed primarily for students who plan to teach in elementary school. This course focuses on the development of quantitative reasoning skills through in-depth, integrated explorations of topics in mathematics, including real number systems and subsystems. Emphasis is on comprehension and analysis of mathematical concepts and applications of logical reasoning. This course also covers the language of sets, elementary logic, systems of numeration, nature of numbers, fundamental operations, relations and functions, integers, rational and real numbers, and various algorithms used in calculations.

**STANDARD LEARNING OUTCOME:** Upon the successful completion of this class, students will be able to demonstrate basic mathematical concepts necessary to teach elementary school mathematics.

**ATTENDANCE & TIME REQUIRED OUTSIDE OF CLASS:**  Attendance is essential for success in this course.  We will have graded class assignments at almost every meeting. These cannot be made up.  Therefore, missing class will adversely affect your grade.  If you decide to stop attending the class, **it is your responsibility to officially drop by the published deadlines – see below**.  If you stop coming to class but do not officially drop, you will receive a letter grade in the class based on the average of assignments and tests completed and not completed.  Any assignment or test not completed receives zero points.  You may be dropped from the class for absences exceeding three hours or one class meeting.  Three cases of tardiness are equivalent to one absence (This includes returning late from the designated break).  Leaving and reentering the classroom once the lecture has started is distracting to everyone and must be avoided.  This may also count as one-third (or more) of an absence. It is your responsibility to discuss with me any absences that might alter your status in the class.

      **IMPORTANT DATES (AS GIVEN IN THE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES):**
Last Day to Drop <u>Without</u> Receiving a "W" is February 21st.  (internet only)
Last Day to Drop <u>With</u> a "W" is May 8th.  (internet only)

**CALCULATORS:** No Calculators will be allowed on any classwork, quizzes, or tests.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** Final course grades will be determined by the following course work.

- **FINAL EXAM:** The final exam is cumulative and will be given on Wednesday June 1st from 7 pm to 9 pm.
- **TESTS:** There will be three tests in addition to the final exam.  Test dates are given on the tentative schedule. These dates are subject to change and will be confirmed in class one week prior to the exam.  With proper documentation presented in a timely manner, one missed test may be made up or replaced with the final exam at the instructor's discretion.  A second missed test will receive a grade of zero. Test grades (including the final exam) are never curved.  They will be assigned a letter grade using the same criteria as the course grade.
- **CLASSWORK:** There will be in–class, group assignments almost every day.  These assignments will be graded on a regular basis at the instructor's discretion.  The assignments will be completed in groups of 4 or 5 people.  Each member of each group will turn in a paper and one paper from the group will be selected at random for grading. Each group member will receive a grade based on this one paper..  There are no make-ups on group assignments. If you leave early (before 10:00 pm) with an incomplete assignment or with any errors on the assignment, that assignment will receive a zero.  Class ends officially at 10:00 pm.  There will be no penalty for work not finished

by this time (unless a minimum completion number has been established).  Work turned in at 10:00 pm will be graded on correctness not completeness.  Internet access is not allowed during classwork.

- **HOMEWORK AND QUIZZES:** Homework and quizzes will be assigned weekly on MyMathLab.

**BASIS OF GRADING:**  Final course grades will be assigned using a weighted percent system.  This calculation is made by multiplying the overall average in each category by its weighting factor and then finding the sum of these products.

| Course requirements are weighted as follows: | | The course grade will be determined as follows: | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | A | 90% – 100% |
| Final Exam | 25% | B | 80% – 89% |
| Tests | 60% | C | 70% – 79% |
| Classwork | 7.5% | D | 60% – 69% |
| Homework/Quizzes | 7.5% | F | below 60% |

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:**  Cheating is a serious offense.  Examples of cheating during an exam include looking at another student's exam, copying a solution from another student, giving answers or allowing another student to copy your solution, using unauthorized notes or formula sheets, using any unauthorized technology, and having a cell phone on your desk.  If you are caught cheating on an exam, the penalty will include receiving a zero score on the exam and being referred to the Vice President of Student Services for possible further disciplinary action.

**STUDENT CONDUCT:**  Learning mathematics requires concentration.  Please refrain from any behaviors that distract other students from learning.  This includes leaving class to use the restroom or to use your cell phone except during designated breaks.  Cell phones should be turned off (including alert sounds) before class begins.  Persistence in distracting behaviors may result in suspension from class and consequently a lower grade in the course.

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**  If you are a student with a disability requiring classroom accommodations, and have not contacted SSD, do so in a timely manner. SSD is located in the Student Services Annex, Room 175 or call SSD at (818) 947-2681 or TTD (818) 947-2680 to meet with a SSD counselor. If SSD has already sent the memo to me confirming your required accommodations, please meet with me to discuss arrangements.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** Extra credit may be awarded at the end of the semester for an outstanding body of work throughout the semester.  This would include a minimum average of 90% on all homework, classwork and quizzes, strict observance of student conduct guidelines, and excellent participation.  If these criteria are met, I may add up to 2% to your overall grade or replace your lowest exam score with your final exam score.

**FINANCIAL AID**: *Financial Aid is available! Call (818) 947-2412.* Go to the Financial Aid Office in the Student Services Center, first floor. For more info*: http://www.lavc.edu/financialaid/index.html.*

**DISCLAIMER – SUBJECT TO CHANGE**: Please be advised that this syllabus is subject to change at any time at the sole discretion of the instructor.