

Instructor: K. Dearinger
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Office Hours: TR: 8:30AM – 10:15AM (or by appointment)

Required Textbook and Manipulatives

- **Textbook:** *Geometric Structures – An Inquiry Based Approach for Prospective Elementary and Middle School Teachers* by Doug Aichele and John Wolfe. **This Textbook may NOT be purchased over the internet or purchased “used.”**
- **Manipulatives:** Scissors, compass, protractor, ruler, mira (or equivalent) and calculator

You should bring your textbook and manipulatives to every class, along with a hard copy of your syllabus.

Grading

Four components will be used in determining your final course grade:

1. 3 Hour Exams (100 points each)	300 points
2. Daily Activities, homework, quizzes.	100 points
3. Final Exam (100 pts recorded twice	<u>200 points</u>
Total Possible Points	600 points

Minimum total points needed for semester grade:

537 - A (90%)
477 - B (80%)
417 - C (70%)
357 - D (60%)

1. **Hour Exams:** There will be 3 hour exams (100 points each).

Exam 1: Th, Sept 15

Exam 2: Th, Oct 13

Exam 3: Th, Nov 10

FINAL EXAM: 12:30 class.....Tu, Dec 6, 10AM

2:00 class.....Th, Dec 8, 2PM

A student shall be offered reasonable accommodation in the event that he or she misses a major assessment activity for a valid and documented reason. Three 100-point hour exams will be given during the semester.

Dates for these exams will be announced in class at least one week before the exam date. **Absolutely no make-up exams** will be given for any reason. If one exam is missed, the score on the final will replace the missed exam score ONLY IF YOU REQUEST AND OBTAIN APPROVAL FROM ME IN ADVANCE of the exam (when possible) and only for **very serious and unavoidable conflicts**. If this condition is not satisfied, a grade of zero will be recorded for the missed exam. If you must miss a second exam, it will be an automatic zero.

2. Daily Activities, Homework, Quizzes: A homework assignment (usually 4 to 6 activity pages) will be given for nearly every class. The assignment is due the next class meeting and some of the pages may be collected to be graded. That is, some of the assigned activity pages will be collected frequently. It is very important that you work the pages before coming to class for two reasons. First, some may be turned in for a grade and second, these activity pages will provide a basis for the discussions in class. Occasionally, I will give a short quiz instead of collecting activity pages. Quizzes will be announced and unannounced. During the semester there will be **approximately** 12 of these graded activity papers and/or quizzes. You **MUST** be present to turn these in. Each one will be worth 10 points and I will use your best 10 scores for your Homework/Quiz grade (100 points max). This means that if you miss an assignment, homework or quiz, it will be one of the scores that is dropped, if possible.

3. Final Exam: A 200 point, **comprehensive final exam** will be given. The date and time of the final exam is set by the University and cannot be changed.

All finals are in the regular classroom.

4. Please remember: All work must be shown on all problems. If you “think it,” you should show it.

Electronics: NO electronics are allowed in the classroom. Use of electronics may result in an absence or a request to leave the classroom.

Attendance Score (BONUS): (50 points maximum): Attendance will be taken during each class session. As a future teacher, professionalism is expected; therefore, attendance in this course is important. You must be fully participating in class to be considered present. Sleeping, reading the paper, texting, or otherwise not being fully participating in class will result in an absence. Determining “full participation” will be left to the discretion of the instructor. Since this score is for “extra credit” only, there are **no excused absences** so notes or documentation are not necessary. Your attendance score is determined by your total days absent from class. The rules governing the attendance score are shown below.

1. You must be present for the **entire class** session in order to be counted as present. If you come in **more than five minutes late or leave early, you may be counted absent.**
2. You must **sign the roll** to be considered present. This is YOUR responsibility. Failure to sign the roll will result in an absence and cannot be disputed at a later date.
3. Because this score is for extra credit only, there are **no “excused” absences** for any reason.
4. The instructor has complete discretion in awarding attendance points. If you are sleeping during class, or are otherwise not participating in class, you may be counted absent.
5. The **attendance score is optional** and is meant to reward students for good attendance. A low class attendance score (due to excessive absences) will **not lower** your overall grade. . However, from experience, it is not uncommon for students to regret an absence at the end of the semester, so I STRONGLY suggest that you avoid ANY absences.
6. You will be given 50 attendance points at the beginning of the semester. You will receive one "free" absence, with no points deducted. For each absence after that, you will have 3 points deducted from your attendance score.
7. If a person has no absences at all, four additional bonus points will be added to the 50 points for class attendance.

Replacing an Exam: You may replace the lowest of the first three exam scores or half of your final exam score, provided it improves your letter grade, with points awarded to you as follows.

Half of your lowest exam score + Your attendance points = Low Exam Replacement Score

Example: John's lowest exam score is 59 and he has 2 absences. John's points are calculated as follows:

Half of John's lowest test score	30 (half of 59 is 29.5, rounded up to 30)
Attendance points	46 (first absence is "free", so $50 - 3 \cdot 1 = 47$)
Total	76

John's lowest exam score of 59 will be replaced with a score of 77.

General Comments

This course is intended primarily for elementary education and early childhood education majors. The course is no longer an upper division A-designated General Education course. If you are enrolled in this course and your major is not one of the above, you should check with your advisor as soon as possible to find a course that is more suited to your major.

This class will not be a typical lecture-style learning experience; instead, students will be asked to discuss problems with each other, as well as their solutions, in order to understand the concepts involved. Because this course is highly dependent on classroom involvement, your effort, creativity, and involvement will determine how much you get out of the course.

This course is intended to model the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Curriculum Standards and NCTM Professional Standards. It is in this sense that we consider the course to be “inquiry-based”. Read Appendix I and Pages *xi-xiii* in your textbook to better understand what this means.

Study Teams

After the first class period, you will be placed in a study team. It is expected that your study team will not only work together on projects, but also discuss and collaborate on the assignments which will be assigned for each class. Throughout the semester, your study team will serve as a key resource towards understanding the course material. In fact, certain projects will be team projects and a portion of your grade on the project will be determined by how well your team works together. It is your responsibility to see that all members of the team contribute their fair share. However, it is still essential that all work you present to the instructor is “your own.” Work which is copied from a classmate is considered academic misconduct and will be treated as such. In addition, your study team will be your resource if you miss class. Contact someone in your group to find which sections were covered and are due the next class period.

The class is to be driven by student-to-student discussion of mathematical ideas. For this reason, any questions related to subject matter should first be brought up to your study team and then to other study teams and the class as a whole. *The instructor will not be addressing questions which were not presented to other class members first.*

Helpful Resources: The Mathematics Learning Success Center (MLSC) is located on the 5th floor of the library. The hours of operation are Sunday 1pm-9pm, Monday-Thursday 9am-9pm and Friday 9am-5pm. In addition, LASSO is available to all students, free of charge.

Student Class Number

When the drop and add period is over and the roll is official, each student will be assigned a Student Class Number. This will be a sequential number indicating your alphabetical order in the class. This number is extremely helpful to me (and my graders) in sorting and organizing your papers, handing back papers and recording grades. Once this number is assigned, you should remember it and put it on **all your papers, circled in the upper right hand corner.**

Cell Phones. Turn cell phones off and put them away during class. Cell phones are **not allowed out at any time** during class except under unusual circumstances and only when cleared in advance by the instructor. Remember, texting or other use of a cell phone may result in an absence for the class period. In addition, cell phones are NOT calculators and should not be used as such.

E-mail Guidelines

My e-mail address is listed on Page 1. Please use the following guidelines when you send me an e-mail:

- All e-mails should have on the **Subject Line: Your name and when the class meets.** Ex: Jane Doe, TR 2:00
- **All issues involving grades** must be discussed in person in my office, or before or after class when time and circumstances allow....NOT by email.
- **E-mails asking questions already answered in the syllabus** will not be answered.

University Policies

- All OSU policies and procedures will be followed in this course. It is your responsibility to know and comply with all OSU policies and deadlines. See the syllabus attachment (<http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/faculty-a-staff>) for more information.
- Plagiarism, cheating on exams, quizzes and projects, and other such actions constitute academic misconduct and/or dishonesty. In this course students are expected to demonstrate complete integrity at all times. Read the University policies on academic integrity, misconduct and dishonesty at the OSU website: <http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu/>.

Special Accommodations for Students

If any member of this class feels that he/she has a disability and needs special accommodations, I will work with you and the Office of Disabled Student Services to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in the class. Please advise me of such disability and the desired accommodations as soon as possible.

Any changes in this syllabus will be communicated to you in class by the instructor.