Department of Mathematics, Oklahoma State University

Geometry, Math 4403, Fall 2014

Lectures:
   Tuesday, Thursday, 10:30 – 11:45 AM in HSCI 024 (Human Sciences, Room 024)

Instructor: Mahdi Asgari
   Office: MS 525
   E-mail: `asgari@math.okstate.edu`
   Tel: 744-6718
   Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM in MLSC (see below)
                       Thursday 9:30 AM - 10:20 AM in MS 525, or by appointment.

Textbook: G. A. Venema, Foundations of Geometry, 2nd ed., Pearson, 2012.
   I plan on covering (most of) chapters 2–6. I hope to also cover a sample of the material in the remaining chapters in one way or another, depending on time and other restrictions.

WWW page: A web page with some information about the course, such as homework assignments, will be maintained at `http://www.math.okstate.edu/∼asgari/teach.html`

Grading: Your final grade in the course will be determined through one of the following two formulas:

(1) Three exams worth 250 points each + Homework worth 280 points = Total of 1030 points

(2) Three exams worth 310 points each + Homework worth 100 points = Total of 1030 points

You need not choose your formula, however. I will calculate both for you and use the higher one. Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A: $900 \leq \text{Total} \leq 1030$,

B: $800 \leq \text{Total} < 900$,

C: $700 \leq \text{Total} < 800$,

D: $600 \leq \text{Total} < 700$,

F: $\text{Total} < 600$.

Depending on the median scores these cutoffs may be slightly lowered and some discretion of the instructor may be used in deciding borderline cases.

Homework: Problems are assigned on a regular basis on the web page for the course. They should be neatly written in the same order they are assigned and turned in at the beginning of the class meeting they are due, usually on Thursday, starting in the second week of classes. Please make sure you *staple* multiple pages and also write *your name* legibly on top of the first page.
   Your assignment for the first week is to read Chapter 1 in the textbook on the subject of Euclid's *Elements.* You need not turn in anything in the first week though and no grades will be given for the first week.
   You are welcome to discuss problems with each other; however, what you turn in should be your own individual work and not copied or otherwise reproduced from others' work. *No late homework will be accepted.* The lowest two homework scores will be dropped in order to account for unavoidable missed work, e.g., due to illness. This eliminates the need for you to contact me or provide me with documentation for legitimate absences.

Exams: There will be three exams in this course, tentatively scheduled as follows.

    Exam 1:   Tuesday, September 18, 2014
    Exam 2:   Thursday, October 23, 2014
    Exam 3:   Tuesday, November 25, 2014

All exams are held in the regular classroom. Your final activity will be to attend presentations of selected topics, by me or some of your classmates who have signed honor contracts, during the last week of classes and no meeting will take place during finals week.

Class Attendance: It is not my intention to take daily attandance; however, you will be responsible for knowing everything discussed or announed in class.

Honor Contracts: Students can sign honor contracts for this class. If this may be of interest to you, please discuss this with me after class during the first week.

Etiquette: Electronic devices that go off during class present a distraction to other people in class. As a courtesy to others, please turn off and stow these devices before the class begins.

Free Tutoring Assistance: The Mathematics Learning Success Center (MLSC) can provide tutoring and other services for this and similar mathematics courses. MLSC is located on the 5th floor of the Edmond Low Library.

In addition to my office hours, one of which is held at the MLSC, you may go to MLSC for help. Even though MLSC is mostly geared toward Calculus, Differential Equations, and Linear Algebra courses, you can find several faculty or math graduate students there who would be able to answer questions related to this course too. For information about MLSC, including their operating hours and schedules, see

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https://www.math.okstate.edu/mlsc

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OSU Syllabus Attachment: For general university policies and important dates see the syllabus attachment for the current semester. It can be accessed at:

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http://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/current-students/

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You will also find information about academic integrity and other useful information on this website.

Note: The instructor reserves the right to make modifications to this course information sheet throughout the semester if it becomes necessary to do so.