

# JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

State University of New York

Instructor Course Syllabus

**MAT 1500 - Problem Solving with Mathematics (3 credits)**

**Fall 2021 and Spring 2022**

**Class M – F**

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**Instructor:** Courtney Malia

**Office:** Room 62

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**Office Hours:** Please see the school website to find my office hours dates for each month. They will all be held in Room 62 at Hinsdale Central School.

**Catalog Description:** **MAT 1500 Problem Solving with Mathematics** Students will develop problem-solving skills through a detailed study of topics such as financial mathematics, linear and exponential modeling, and geometry, in context with specific problem solving strategies such as drawing diagrams, making systematic lists, looking for patterns, identifying sub-problems, and working backwards. Solution presentations and communication are emphasized. Prerequisite/corequisite: Eligibility for ENG 1510. Highschool GPA of 80+ and either Algebra 1 Regents 75+ or Algebra 1 course average of 80+.

**Materials:**

1. Textbook: [CollegeMathematicsTextbookMAT14x1stEdition.pdf](#)  
[\(myopenmaths3.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)
2. 1 Three ring binder (for notes, handouts, quizzes/exams, assignments)
3. Calculator (Not a requirement, but useful for computations)
4. Notebook to take notes in

**Grading:** This is a college level mathematics course, and I will have high expectations for the level of work that you will submit. All work should be turned in neatly written or typed (if applicable), and with high levels of thought. Final grades for this course will be determined by a weighted average of the following assessments as specified.

Exams:	50%	A	90-100
Homework:	25%	B / B+	80-86 / 87-89
Projects:	15%	C / C+	70-76/ 77-79
Participation:	10%	D / D+	60-66 / 67-69
		F	<60

**Exams:** Exams will be based on notes covered in class and similar to homework/notes/review questions from the textbook. You can expect at least one exam per chapter in the textbook. If you are going to miss an exam, you must let me know in advance and find a time to make it up on your own time.

**Homework:** Homework assignments will primarily come from the textbook, but some assignments might be from additional resources. You should expect homework assignments daily to be completed the following day. If you are absent, I expect the homework to be turned in the next day that you are present. Homework should be completed fully and completely with high levels of thought.

**Projects:** You should expect a project for each topic we cover. I expect projects to be well written, organized and professional. They are meant to be fun and insightful for each topic. What you put in to the project is going to be what you get out of it!

**Participation:** Please follow the Hinsdale attendance policy for attendance of this class. Attendance will be important to your success in the class and you can expect that the more classes you miss, the harder it will be. Mostly this grade will come from participation in the class setting. You must actively engage during class. That might mean responsibly taking notes and answering at least a couple of questions during class time. If you miss a class day, you are responsible for any missed work, and should expect to be caught up by the next day to continue participating in that class. Each day you will receive one of the following scores as outlined below:

- 0 – Not following along in class, being disruptive or not engaged
- 1 – Somewhat following along in class, but could engage more
- 2 – Contributes positively to class discussion and engaged in what the class is doing

**Late Assignment Policy:** I will accept late assignments; however, points will be deducted depending on how late it is. Since we have class every day, if you are absent on a day an assignment is due, I expect the assignment to be turned in the next day you are present. If it is still not turned in at that time, it will then be considered late. Each week the assignment is late, a full letter grade will be deducted. After 5 weeks, it will no longer be accepted.

**Statement on Academic Integrity and Cheating:** Students are allowed to work together outside of class on homework assignments however, *copying and/or cheating is not permitted*. Violations of this policy will not be tolerated and will minimally result in scores of 0 on the assignment. You can refer to the Hinsdale Student Code of Conduct for additional information on violations of cheating. Also, please understand that working together on homework means that a sharing of ideas is taking place, that the members of the group are all contributing to the task in some way, and that the written work each student produces is their own and not copied from another's written work. Cheating on tests/quizzes/projects will not be tolerated and could result in removal from the class. Projects, even though they might be completed at home or on your own time, should be done independently as each student might gain something different from the projects.

**Proposed Text Coverage (not covered in this order):**

- Chapter 1 Fundamentals of Geometry
- Chapter 2 Measurement and Dimensional Analysis
- Chapter 3 Linear Functions
- Chapter 4 Percentages
- Chapter 5 Savings

Chapter 6 Annuities and Loans  
Chapter 10 Statistics

**Blackboard Use Policy:** At this time, Hinsdale Central School does not use Blackboard for student learning or courses. If needed, we will plan to use TEAMS through Microsoft that each student has an account for. Teams will be used for notifications and communication. Any communication in the class TEAM account should be appropriate and school related. If you are to be quarantined, students are expected to sign on to teams and join the class virtually. Assignments may be posted on teams, but most will be done on paper, handed out in class.

**Important Dates:** Please follow the Hinsdale Central School calendar for days off, breaks, early dismissal, etc. Tests and Quizzes will be announced at least 2 days in advance and will be returned no more than 3 days after it is taken.

**Cellphone Use:** Please follow the Hinsdale Student handbook on cell phone policies. Cell phones will not be permitted in the class unless instructed by me.