



## MATH V38 • COURSE INFORMATION

**The Course.** 3 units (3 hrs lecture weekly). This is a course in mathematical concepts suitable for prospective elementary-level teachers; it assumes previous exposure to algebraic concepts and techniques. It covers mathematical reasoning and problem solving; sets, numeration, and the calculator; whole numbers and their operations; fractions and integers; decimals and rational/irrational numbers; and algebra and functions. By the end of the course, the successful student will be able to recognize patterns of reasoning; solve problems relating to sets; work with other number bases and numeration systems; solve problems using the four arithmetic operations; use a variety of operation algorithms; solve ratio and percent problems; recognize and use primes and composites; perform mental math and estimation; solve linear equations in one variable using traditional and graphic models; translate word problems into algebraic symbols; graph linear and non-linear equations; relate mathematical concepts to everyday experiences; and use manipulatives. The course includes instruction in proper notation, word problems, calculator use, and emphasizes the importance of acquiring good study skills.

**Class Meetings.** Lecture: Tuesday 7:00–9:50 p.m. in room SCI-227.

Please turn off (or set to "vibrate" mode) all cell phones and pagers, so as not to interrupt the class.

**Homework Club.** Please visit during any scheduled homework club hours (note locations below), or make an appointment.

- Tutorial Center (first floor of LRC across the hall from the BEACH); Monday/Wednesday 2:00–3:00 p.m., and Friday 9:30–10:30 a.m.
- Math Center (Room SCI-223); Tuesday 6:00–7:00 p.m., and Thursday 2:00–3:00 p.m.

These times may change, especially early in the term. Schedule updates are posted on the Web at <http://academic.venturacollege.edu/mbowen/courses/2008aki/classked.pdf>. Contact the instructor, Michael Bowen, by telephone (654-6400, ext. 1336) or by e-mail at [mbowen@vcccd.edu](mailto:mbowen@vcccd.edu).

**Prerequisites.** Math V03 or equivalent. Students should know how to distinguish between polygons and solve geometric problems in two and three dimensions; create proofs; create compass-and-straightedge constructions; solve linear equations (including systems), quadratic equations, exponential equations, logarithmic equations, and word problems; graph quadratic equations and conic sections; solve and graph linear and quadratic inequalities; simplify expressions containing exponents; work with complex numbers. Good reading and writing skills are helpful; homework, quizzes, and the final examination may include word problems and/or essay questions.

### Course Materials.

- The text is required: G. Musser, *Mathematics for Elementary Teachers: A Contemporary Approach*, Seventh Edition (ISBN 0471662933). Math V38 lectures largely follow the material in chapters 1 through 9 of this text, which we shall cover in whole or in part as indicated in the homework assignments.
- Students should purchase or borrow a good calculator. The calculator must be capable of evaluating powers, roots, exponentials, and logarithms. If you already have a calculator but are not sure whether it has the necessary capabilities, please bring it and ask the instructor. *The Department of Mathematics recommends that students in this course acquire a graphing calculator, such as the TI-82, TI-83, or TI-84.*
- The Web start page for this course is <http://academic.venturacollege.edu/mbowen/courses/2008aki/m38.shtml>.
- Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for this course are available on the VC math department's web site, at <http://academic.venturacollege.edu/mbowen/mathdept/MathSLO.shtml>.
- Core Competencies for this course are available on the VC web site (in PDF format only), at [http://www.venturacollege.edu/assets/pdf/core\\_competencies/corecomps\\_math.pdf](http://www.venturacollege.edu/assets/pdf/core_competencies/corecomps_math.pdf).

**Grading and Drop Policies.** Please see the accompanying **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING** document, which is expressly incorporated and made a part of this **COURSE INFORMATION** document by reference. It is the student's responsibility to remember drop deadlines and regulations. The various drop deadlines for this semester are listed under **IMPORTANT DATES** below.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Student holidays ...	1 September, 10 November, and 27–28 November 2008
Last day to add a class ...	Friday 29 August (or Sunday 31 August via Webstar) 2008
Last day for full refunds ...	Friday 29 August (or Sunday 31 August via Webstar) 2008
Last day for partial refunds (nonresident tuition only) ...	Friday 12 September 2008
<b>Drop deadline (no "W") ...</b>	<b>Friday 12 September 2008</b>
Credit/No Credit request deadline ...	Friday 19 September 2008

**Drop deadline (no "F") ... Friday 21 November 2008**

**Final Examination ... Room SCI-227, 7:30–9:30 p.m., Tuesday 16 December 2008**

All **COURSE INFORMATION** is subject to change without notice. Please refer questions directly to your instructor.

**VC DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

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**REVISED FALL 2008**