



Gordon State College Fall 2020

Course and Title: MATH 1001, Quantitative Skills and Reasoning
Credits: 3 Credits
Course Format: Hybrid
Prerequisites: Exemption form or completion of Learning Support Mathematics
Times and Places: 11:00 – 12:15 Mondays and Wednesdays IC 309
2:00 – 3:15 Mondays and Wednesdays IC 309
Final Exam: Tuesday, December 8th at 10:15 AM
Friday, December 4th at 2:45 PM
Instructor: Chris Phillips
Office: IC 227
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays: 12:15–2:00
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10:45–12:30
E-Mail: cphillips@gordonstate.edu

Textbook: Jeffrey Bennett and William Briggs. *Using and Understanding Mathematics*. 7th Edition. Addison Wesley ISBN: 978-0-13-471601-5

COVID-19 Concerns: Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the university system has required Gordon State College to implement social distancing policies. **All students are required to wear face masks in classrooms and buildings on campus.** This semester, half the class will meet in the classroom one day a week, and the other half will meet the other day. The second day of instruction will take place on Blackboard Ultra on D2L at 7PM live on Wednesdays with recordings available for students to access at any time. Also, the semester will be 100% online after Thanksgiving including Final Exam Review and the Final Exam.

Another Gordon State College professor said the following which I agree with 100%. “As an institution of higher education we value and are guided by ethical scholarship and scientific principle. We value and forward the collective knowledge

and reasoning of our predecessors. We understand the difference between naïve belief and earned knowledge, and we guide our students from the former towards the latter in every activity of our collective work. Were a student to turn in a science project claiming the earth was flat, everyone would agree that those students would fail their projects. So, too, should we expect students to engage in ethical behavior consistent with established scientific understanding (that one of the best preventatives of the Covid-19 virus spread in social situations is that all participants wear masks) and that any student failing to meet this expectation by not wearing a mask will be removed from the room without question or argument. These students risk more than failing a test; they are taking risks with all of our lives. It is undeniable that mask-denying students place their peers, their professors, and all members of the Gordon State College community at risk. Any violation of the mask policy will be met with swift correction in order to prevent further disruption and to protect the GSC community.”

Note: This course may transition to an online format at any point in the semester in compliance with the University System of Georgia and CDC guidelines in order to ensure the safety of our students and faculty.

For more information related to COVID-19, visit

<https://www.gordonstate.edu/corona-virus/index.html>.

Class Description: This course will cover a variety of topics in quantitative skills and reasoning, selected from Chapters 1 through 10. The topics covered include logic and set theory, problem solving using units of measure, calculations of everyday life and finances, probability and statistics, and modeling.

Course Objectives: An expected outcome of the college is that students will demonstrate a basic knowledge of the fundamentals of college-level mathematics. Upon completion of Quantitative Skills and Reasoning, students should have an understanding and be able to demonstrate their knowledge of:

- Creating logical arguments and recognizing fallacies.
- Problem solving using units of measure.
- Percents and their use in everyday finances including interest rates, loans, and mortgages.
- Measures of central tendency and dispersion.

- Statistical tables, graphs, correlation, causality, and normal distributions.
- Calculating theoretical probabilities, permutations, and combinations.
- Linear models, quadratic models, exponential models, and logarithmic models.
- Fundamental geometric concepts and problem solving.

Calculator – A graphing calculator is needed for this course. If you cannot obtain a graphing calculator, it is highly recommended that you withdraw from the course and either take it with another instructor or take it another semester when you can afford one. A TI-83 or 84 is recommended, but any TI-82 through 87 is sufficient. It is strongly recommended that students do not use a TI-89 or TI-92 graphing calculator.

Homework and Labs: Homework questions will be assigned each class but not collected, and while they will not count towards your overall grade, they are nonetheless an important to students' success in that they are practice for the tests and are a good measure of how well students understand the material. Labs will be held in class before each test and will count towards 10% of that test. Students are encouraged to work together on the labs in class. Students may make up a lab if they miss the class it was held, but they will receive a 5 point penalty on the test.

Grades: The four tests scheduled for this course will constitute 75% of each student's final average, and the remaining 25% will be determined by cumulative departmental final exam. The final semester grades will be assigned according to the "usual" grading system: 90-100: A, 80-89: B, 70-79: C, 60-69: D, 50-59: F. 20% of each test will be take home questions and the remaining 80% of each test will be taken in class. Students who do not submit the take home part of the test at the time of the test will receive a 0 for that part. Students can schedule a "make-up test" with the instructor if they miss a test. Students who score less than a 40 on their test will receive a score of 40 for that test. Students must take the final exam at the scheduled time unless they have three or more finals on the same day. Those students may petition to take the third and/or fourth exam on another day or days. Student Petition forms are available in the Academic Affairs Office (Lambdin Hall 347).

Attendance: Regardless of ability, students who miss many classes rarely pass college math courses. For this reason, the importance of attending class regularly cannot be stressed enough especially for a course as advanced as Calculus. Students will need to sign the attendance sheet each class. If a student's schedule prevents him/her from attending this class during the time it is given, it is recommended that he/she should drop this course or switch to a section that better fits his/her schedule. Students will be held accountable for all the material presented in class whether they attend or not.

Ethics: Students may collaborate on the first part of each test, however, each student is expected to understand the difference between debating the process of arriving at an answer, which is completely acceptable and is encouraged, and merely copying the answers of another student, which is not acceptable. Any questions on the areas in between should be directed to the instructor. The second part of the tests taken in class and the final exam, obviously, are **100% NOT** collaborative. Cheating or the appearance of cheating will result in a 0 for the test and will be reported to the college.

Additional Course and College Information

Students with Short Term Food Insecurities: The mission of Harry's House is to distribute food and toiletries to students to alleviate stress associated with short term food insecurity and other financial constraints in order to effectively reduce hunger and support educational success.

<https://www.gordonstate.edu/harrys-house/index.html>

Title IX: Gordon State College is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these incidents, know that you are not alone. All faculty members at Gordon State College are mandated reporters. Any student reporting any type of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence or stalking must be made aware that any report made to a faculty member under the provisions of Title IX will be reported to the Title IX Coordinator or a Title IX Deputy Coordinator. If you wish to speak with someone

confidentially, you must contact the Counseling and Accessibility Services office, Room 212, Student Life Center. The licensed counselors in the Counseling Office are able to provide confidential support. Gordon State College does not discriminate against any student on the basis of pregnancy, parenting or related conditions. Students seeking accommodations on the basis of pregnancy, parenting or related conditions should contact Counseling and Accessibility Services regarding the process of documenting pregnancy related issues and being approved for accommodations, including pregnancy related absences as defined under Title IX.

ADA and 504: If you have a documented disability as described by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, you may be eligible to receive accommodations to assist in programmatic and/or physical accessibility. The Counseling and Accessibility Services office located in the Student Center, Room 212 can assist you in formulating a reasonable accommodation plan and in providing support in developing appropriate accommodations to ensure equal access to all GSC programs and facilities. Course requirements will not be waived, but accommodations may assist you in meeting the requirements. For documentation requirements and for additional information, contact Counseling and Accessibility Services at 678-359-5585.

House Bill 280: For information regarding House Bill 280, see the University System of Georgia at the following link: <http://www.usg.edu/hb280>

Religious Holidays: Gordon State College acknowledges that the academic calendar can sometimes conflict with major holidays from among our diverse religious traditions. If a student must miss class due to the observance of a religious holiday, that absence may be excused. To be excused, the student must inform his/her instructors before the absence and make alternate arrangements for any work due at the time of the absence. An excused absence for the observance of a religious holiday does not excuse student from responsibility for required course work. Gordon State College acknowledges that the academic calendar can sometimes conflict with major

Hightower Collaborative Learning Center & Library: The Hightower Collaborative Learning Center & Library offers Gordon State students specialized library research assistance. Students can meet with their personal librarians for one-on-one help in each discipline, major, or course to search and evaluate information sources effectively. Go to <http://libcal.gordonstate.edu/> to schedule an appointment by clicking the **Personal Librarian** tab or click on the **Room reservations** tab to make a reservation. For immediate help, call **678-359-5076** or stop by the Circulation/Check-Out Desk. You can also ask **Ask a Librarian** or drop by the Circulation/Check-Out Desk. Check the library's **website** for **operating hours**, **Electronic Resources**, and **LibGuides** (subject- or class-specific research guides).

Every instructor has his or her own pet peeves, and mine are 1) students who come to class and try to maintain a conversation during class and 2) students who text message during class. The class is held for the sole purpose of educating students in math. Any activity that distracts others cannot be tolerated. If you have important business outside of your education that needs your immediate attention, please attend to it outside of the classroom.

How to Succeed in this Course: As in any college class, a student who is serious about getting a good grade will attend classes regularly, complete homework assignments to ensure his/her understanding of the material, and study for the tests. Any student who does not understand the material as it is presented is encouraged to ask questions. Any student who is unable to do homework problems should ask that it is shown at the beginning of the next class. Students that find themselves falling behind can get help through nettutor in D2L.