Math 246 General Syllabus          Fall 2013          Laurel Langford
                                                      laurel.langford@uwrf.edu
                                                      http://langfordmath.com/

**Office hours** (getting help): I will be available in my office (206F NH; office phone 715-425-3119) MWF 11:00-11:50, TR 1:00-1:50. I am around a lot during the day when I am not in class, and I am (almost) always happy to see you (it is a good idea to make an appointment if you are able to plan ahead). A more complete version of my schedule can be found at the schedule link from my homepage.

**Announcements,** schedules, assignments and review sheets are posted on my web site. (also any revisions to the syllabus). I will be posting your scores on D2L.  Occasionally there are problems with the gradebook (both human and machine errors). **Please save all of your work from this class until after you have checked your grades to make sure I have scores recorded**

**Topics** :
Sets, Problem Solving and Algebraic reasoning
Whole number concepts and operations
Geometry

**Supplies:** We have a fairly complete set of supplies in the classroom, but you will need to have the following at home: *scissors, tape, colored pencils (or similar), and a ruler.* An emphasis of this class is arithmetic, so you will not be allowed to use a calculator for most assignments and tests.

**Grading**: Your grade will be based primarily on your scores on homework, projects, quizzes and tests.  Homework and projects will count as 25% of your grade. Tests and quizzes will count as 75% of your grade.  Your grade will be based primarily on the weighted average (mean) of your scores.  Letter grades will be at least as high as those determined by your weighted average and these percents:
A:  94-100%          A-: 90-93%          B+: 87-89%          B:  84-86%          B-: 80-83%
C+:  77-79%          C: 74-76%          C-: 70-73%          D: 60-69%

Homework:  There will be frequent homework problems. You are encouraged to study together, but each person should write up his/her work independently so that the work you submit reflects your understanding of the problem.  Computer labs that are turned in to be graded will be counted in the homework category

Projects:  There will probably be 1-2 projects.  These will be longer assignments that you work on over the course of several weeks.

Quizzes There will (probably) be quizzes between exams.  Quizzes are generally worth about 30 points.

Tests:  Tests are generally worth about 100 points, and are given in class.  I expect to give 2-3 in class tests, and a 150-200 points (comprehensive) final exam. Please talk to me in advance if you have special needs for test taking.

Class Participation I may (or may not) award some points for class participation.  I see this as my opportunity to reward students who perform particularly well in class.

Attendance: I do a lot of things that are not in the book, and the only way to get the information is to be in class.  I expect you to be near perfect in being in class on time every class period.  If you are absent or tardy enough for me to be concerned, I will give you one warning, after which I will file a dispositions concern report with the College of Education.

Late work:  Late work will be accepted for a reasonable number (up to 5) of late assignments. If you are absent and therefore your work is late for an excused absence (circumstances beyond your control: illness, car in need of towing on the way to class, etc), and you have documentation verifying the reason for the absence, then the lateness of the homework is also excused.  If you are turning in homework late for any other reason, it may be turned in up to one week late, but a 25% penalty applies to your score on that item.  If you contact me promptly (within 24 hours), and complete the make up work in a timely manner as agreed upon with me, this same policy can be applied to a test or quiz.

**You can do it**: A lot of people who take this class don't have a strong background in math.  A lot of people struggle, and need support.  I have seen people with very weak math backgrounds succeed because they <u>worked hard and used their resources wisely</u>.  I can be a good resource.  Your classmates are good resources.  <u>If you need extra support, make sure you take advantage of my office hours and study time with your friends</u>.  This class is designed to tackle the most important topics for elementary teachers to know in math; a lot of the things you will be doing and learning about in this class will be important for you and for your students when you start teaching.  You can do it!

**Teacher Content Standards**:  The College of Arts and Sciences has a webpage that links you to the teacher content standards by course number. " DPI CONTENT STANDARDS: The State of Wisconsin has established content standards that education programs are required to have in their courses. These standards are the basis of the Praxis II Content exams that all licensure candidates are required to pass prior to receiving a license to teach in Wisconsin." Linked by course number from this page: http://www.uwrf.edu/CAS/DPIMathematics.cfm

**General UW-RF information:**  The University of Wisconsin-River Falls strives to maintain our campus as a place of work and study for faculty, staff, and students that is free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and harassment. If you have concerns about such behavior, contact your instructor, the Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities at 715-425-4555, or the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at 715-425-3833. For a list of prohibited behaviors and protected classes or to report online, please, see the following link: http://www.uwrf.edu/EquityDiversityInclusion/incident.cfm.

The University of Wisconsin-River Falls welcomes students with disabilities into its educational programs, activities, residential halls, and other programming and services on campus.  Those who will need academic adjustments or accommodations for a disability should contact the Office of Student Ability Services at 715-425-4555.  Decisions to allow adjustments and accommodations are made by the Office of Student Ability Services on the basis of clinical documentation the students provide to sufficiently indicate the nature of their situation.  Additional information is at: http://www.uwrf.edu/AbilityServices/Index.cfm.