Concepts of Modern Mathematics I (Math 202)

http://jriedy.users.sonic.net/VI/math202-f08/

MWF 9.00am-9.50am, Fall 2008, Virginia Intermont College

Instructor: Jason Riedy <jason@acm.org>

1 Goals

- Gain practice in mathematical reasoning and problem solving.
- Review material relevant for elementary education.
- Fit mathematics into its historical and practical contexts.

2 Text

Long, Calvin T. and DeTemple, Duane W. Mathematical Reasoning for Elementary Teachers, fourth edition. Addison Wesley, 2005. ISBN 0-321-28696-0

3 Instructor: Jason Riedy

Ways to reach me:

- Preferably by email: Jason Riedy <jason@acm.org>
- Instant messages (sometimes): jason.riedy@gmail.com
- office hours: TBD or by appointment. (Often in Java J's in Bristol or Zazzy'Z in Abingdon.)

4 Grading

Standard 10-point scale, 3 points on either side for -/+ grades. The homework is 20%, three mid-term exams are 20% each, and the final counts for 40%. This adds to 120%; the final counts as two 20% scores, and the lowest 20% score is dropped.

4.1 On homework

Some problems will be given in every class. The week's problems will be collected on the following Monday.
Mathematics is a social endeavour. Groups are encouraged, but everyone must turn in their own work. At some point, you will be asked to present a homework problem, its solution, and your reasoning to the class. Also, there may be solutions available for problems. But try tackling the problem **yourself** (or with your group) first. Practice is important.
Write out sentences and not sequences of expressions. Explain your approaches, successful or not. This class is as much about the reasoning process as the results.

5 Initial Syllabus

18 August through 17 September	Chapters 1 and 2
Friday, 19 September	**First exam**
22 September through 29 October	Chapters 3, 4, and 5
Friday, 31 October	**Second exam**
3 November through 26 November	Chapters 6 and 7
28 November	**Third exam**
1 and 3 December	Review
Saturday, 6 December, 3.30pm-5.30pm	**Final exam**

6 Resources

See the home page at http://jriedy.users.sonic.net/VI/math202-f08/ .