THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

COURSE BASICS

Course Number:	MATH 2301 CRN 20579
Course Title:	Mathematics for Social Sciences II
Credit Hours:	3
Term:	Spring 2025
Meeting and Location:	ONLINE
Prerequisite Courses:	MATH 1320 or MATH 1411 or MATH 1508 with a "C" or better

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:	Annette Franco
Office Location:	Bell Hall 206

Contact

Instructor e-mail:	apfranco@utep.edu
Math Department:	mathdept@utep.edu

Please allow at least one business day for the return of e-mails. E-mails will be answered between 9 AM – 5 PM Mon - Thurs and 9 AM – 1 PM on Fridays. E-mails received outside of these windows will be addressed during the next time period or at my discretion, whichever is sooner. Evening and weekend e-mails will be attended to during regular business hours and other times at the instructor's discretion.

Student Office Hours:

- **Via Zoom:** Tuesdays 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM (Access link through Blackboard)

Student office hours are a time where you can get individualized help from me. I am available to answer questions about course content and address any concerns you have about the class. You may attend office hours during the above days and times without an appointment. You are not required to attend the sessions if you do not have questions. **If you need help and cannot attend the above office hours, please e-mail me to schedule an appointment via Zoom.**

Office hours are only held during normal university scheduling. During off-scheduling (Finals week) or condensed scheduling (late start, closed university), hours will be adjusted appropriately.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY AND MATERIALS

Textbook

Finite Mathematics & Applied Calculus by Waner and Costenoble 8th Edition with a WebAssign access code.

Required

You must have the WebAssign access code. This gives you full access to both the assignments and the e-book.

Optional

A hard copy of the textbook is available but not required for the class. The e-book is adequate and comes with the required access code.

Calculator

You may use the free online Desmos calculators: Desmos Graphing Calculator, Desmos Scientific Calculator, Desmos Matrix Calculator.

Online Components

You are required to purchase a WebAssign account.

Ensure your UTEP e-mail account and Blackboard is working and that you have consistent access to the internet and a stable web browser. Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, and Safari are the most supported browsers for both Blackboard and WebAssign.

You will need to have regular access to a computer or laptop. Your cell phone is not sufficient for doing coursework, since WebAssign is not optimized for mobile viewing. You will need to download or update the following software:

- Microsoft Office (available for free through UTEP),
- Adobe,
- Windows Media Player or QuickTime Player, and
- Java.

Blackboard

Inside of our Blackboard course you will be able to see announcements and course materials. Each chapter will have a folder where you can find the worksheets that I use to lecture with and the corresponding lecture notes. These specific set of materials will help prepare you for your homework assignments and subsequently your exams. You will also find the links to WebAssign, the Desmos calculators, the Cengage lecture videos, etc., within Blackboard. Please check out the FAQ folder within Blackboard (as well as reading the syllabus completely and thoroughly) before asking me about class procedures and policies.

WebAssign

WebAssign is an online Course Management System of Cengage, the publisher of our text. You must have reliable internet to take this course. Use the link below to register for WebAssign using your official *UTEP email account*.

https://www.getenrolled.com/?courseKey=utep15454963

You only need to register once. The next time that you need to log in to WebAssign, visit www.webassign.net, click on "SIGN IN", enter your credentials, click on "My Courses", then click on the textbook for our class.

You are required to purchase an access code in order to keep your account active. The eBook option from the UTEP bookstore comes with an access code. You may also choose to purchase the access code directly from within WebAssign. You have 14 days of free WebAssign access. **The free-trial ends on Tuesday, February 4.**

WebAssign Resources:

You will have access to the eBook from within your WebAssign homepage. You will also be able to access and view lecture videos that Cengage has created for each section of the book. You will find these videos by clicking on the Resources tab located at the bottom of your WebAssign homepage. You may also find them within our Blackboard course. Lastly, utilize the 'Class Insights' page on WebAssign to target the topics that you need to study.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

The Mathematics for Social Sciences II course is designed for students who major in business, social sciences, and liberal arts. The mathematical concepts will be focused on real-life applications rather than rigorous mathematical theory. Major topics covered in the course include:

- Matrices
- Limits
- Derivatives
- Integrals

A student who passes this course will be able to understand and work with these mathematical tools and apply them in future math courses and in their careers.

Assignments:

You will find all assignments on www.webassign.net. Please use Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Safari since WebAssign works best with these browsers. All work will take place through WebAssign. Nothing is to be turned in or completed via email, in person, or Blackboard. Homework, three midterm exams, and a comprehensive final exam will be completed via WebAssign.

Homework Assignments

You have 5 attempts per homework question blank. I recommend that you get help after the 3rd incorrect submission rather than waiting until you are out of attempts to get help.

The Ask Your Teacher Feature of WebAssign is the best way to ask questions about your homework as it shows me and the TA the entire problem. You are encouraged to use this as the first method of contact whenever you have homework questions. I ask that you attempt the problems on your own before asking for help and that you be clear on what you are struggling to understand. The Ask Your Teacher Feature has a chat box that will allow us to communicate back and forth about the problem.

Exams

Exams will be given after every two chapters to assess learning progress. The exams will be based on previous homework assignments, so, it is to your advantage to attempt and understand all of the problems on the homework assignments on your own. I would recommend keeping thorough and well-organized notes while completing your homework assignments to help you review for your exams. You will see similar, not identical, problems on the exams. You may use your notes, the online Desmos calculators, and the allowable websites specified in the instructions while taking all exams.

The midterm exams have 15 questions each and are timed at 2 hours. The final exam has 23 questions and is timed at 2 hours and 45 minutes. You have two (2) attempts per blank on exams. The password for all exams is the word **ready**.

Timed Exams:

For all exams, the timer begins once you click on the link to open the assignment. So, enter the password **ready** as soon as possible. This timer will not stop for any reason, not even if you log out. For this reason, it is important to check for any updates on your computer before beginning. It is also important to ensure that your laptop is fully charged or plugged in. Once you begin the exam, the due date will change to reflect the time limit.

Make-up Policy:

Homework

One (1) extension per homework assignment can be requested within 48 hours after the due date. To do so, log in to WebAssign and click on My Assignments then Past Assignments. Scroll to the assignment you want to extend and click Request Extension. Select "Automatic" and "Accept" the extension. You will have 72 hours from the time that you click “Accept” to complete the extended assignment. Note and pay close attention to the new due date and time. You will not be penalized for submitting late work. However, it is best to turn in your homework assignments by the original due date so that you are ready for exams and do not fall behind.

WARNING: Do NOT view the answer key to a homework assignment before requesting the extension for it. You will be denied an extension from both WebAssign and from me if you view the answer key.

Exams

Extensions on exams will only be granted for solid reasons that are accompanied by verifiable documentation. Verifiable documentation includes but is not limited to the following: (1) doctor's note, (2) military orders, (3) university sponsored event notice, (4) a clear screenshot or video of the technical issue at that time it is happening, (5) a Cengage help-desk ticket number, (6) a report showing there was an outage (of electricity, Internet, or WebAssign), (7) court summons, (8) police report, (9) obituary notice.

If the reason is sensitive/personal, it is acceptable to just relay an email or note from, for example, a doctor or counselor that does not identify the specific condition/issue but attests that "Student X has a condition/situation which reasonably prevented her from being able to attend to schoolwork during the period [insert specific date(s)]." Requests for an extension must be made in a timely manner.

Extra-Credit Policy:

I am not authorized to make "deals" with individuals. The grade you receive is the grade you earn; nothing more and nothing less. However, I will be dropping a few of the lowest homework scores at the end of the semester for the entire class. Additionally, you all have the opportunity to receive 5% extra credit points for any HOMEWORK answers submitted more than 48 hours before the due date.

Important Course Dates:

Semester highlights are included.

- January 21st — First Day of Classes
- February 5th — Census Day (Last day to drop without a W)
- March 10th – 14th — Spring Break
- March 28th — Cesar Chavez Holiday - No classes
- April 4th — Drop Day (Last day to drop with a W)
- May 12th – 16th — Final Exams Week

Drop Policy

Students who decide to drop the course must process a drop form by e-mailing records@utep.edu by Friday, April 4th before 5:00 PM MDT. Please note that the College of Science will remain aligned with the university and **will not approve any drop requests after that date**.

Grading Policy

Your overall grade will consist of the weighted average of your scores.

30% Homework Assignments
15% Exam 1
15% Exam 2
15% Exam 3
25% Final Exam

Letter grades are determined according to the following scale:

Grade	Score
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	<60

Incomplete Grade Policy

Incomplete grades may be requested only in exceptional circumstances after you have completed at least half of the course requirements. Talk to me immediately if you believe an incomplete is warranted. If granted, we will establish a contract of work to be completed with deadlines.

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES AND STATEMENTS

Attendance Policy:

You are expected to work toward the completion of the course assignments daily. Attendance in this course is measured by the completed tasks. Failing to complete tasks in a timely manner is equivalent to being absent. Being absent without appropriate communication may result in you being dropped from the course. You are expected to check the due dates on WebAssign regularly. You should also be frequently checking Blackboard and your UTEP miners e-mail for announcements.

Academic Integrity Policy:

The University policy is that all suspected cases or acts of alleged scholastic dishonesty must be referred to the Dean of Students for investigation and appropriate disposition. Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give an unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

I strongly discourage the use of sites such as Chegg, CourseHero, math apps, etc. in this class. If found to have consulted or contributed any material related to this class, you will be automatically reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict resolution as this could be considered a violation of the H.O.O.P. The HOOP can be found here Handbook of Operation Procedures

Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents' Rules and Regulations, which are available for inspection electronically at Regents' Rules and Regulations

All students are expected and required to obey the law, comply with the Regents' Rules and Regulations, with System and University rules, with directives issued by an administrative official during his or her authorized duties, and observe standards of conduct appropriate for the university. A student who enrolls at the university is charged with the obligation to conduct himself/herself in a manner compatible with the university's function as an educational institution.

Any student who engages in conduct that is prohibited by Regents' Rules and Regulations, U. T. System or University rules, specific instructions issued by an administrative official or by federal, state, or local laws is subject to discipline, whether such conduct takes place on or off-campus or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

As you will be taking online exams this semester, please take a moment to review this list of activities considered cheating by the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR). Ways to Cheat

Chat GPT and other AI platforms

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become more easily accessible recently. We recognize there are useful functions of this technology and encourage you to use it ethically and responsibly for your academic endeavors. For example, it is fine to use AI to generate practice problems or examples to help you learn a concept (be cautious assuming everything you get is correct – sometimes it isn't!). However, it would be inappropriate and academically dishonest to submit work to be graded that was written or assisted by an AI program (e.g. Chat GPT). Just like the other tools you have available to help you through this course, you'll need to consider when and how to use them to help you meet your learning goals. If you are in doubt, please consult the instructor or any guidance UTEP may issue.

Course Netiquette Policy:

All correspondence with your instructor, TA, and other students should be conducted in an appropriate and professional manner. Please be considerate of your tone and word choice when conducting correspondence.

Accommodation Policy:

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747- 5148, or email them at **cass@utep.edu** , or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

Military Statement:

If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service or training during the semester, you are encouraged to contact me as soon as you receive your orders.

Copyright Statement:

Course Materials

All materials used in this course are protected by copyright law. The course materials are only for the use of students currently enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further disseminated.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

Academic and Technology Resources

• **Help Desk:** Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus, Academic Resources.

• **UTEP Library:** Access a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.

• **Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS)**: Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.

Individual Resources

• **Military Student Success Center:** Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.

• **Center for Accommodations and Support Services:** Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.

• **Counseling and Psychological Services:** Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.

Health

- UTEP counseling center, Student Health and Wellness Center
- El Paso coronavirus hotline (915) 212-6843, El Paso COVID-19 information,
- El Paso's 24-hour Mental Health Crisis Line (915) 779-1800
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline or Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255
- NAMI (National Alliance Against Mental Illness) of El Paso (915) 534-5478