Mathematics 3430: Algebra for Secondary Math Teachers
Fall 2019. LCB 121, MWF 11:50 am-1:10 pm

Credit Hours: 3
Instructor: Michael van Opstall
Email: opstall@math.utah.edu

Prerequisites: Math 1210
Office: JWB 313
Office Hours: MW 11:00-11:45, F 12-1

Textbook: None required

Course Description: This course is a one-semester course examining topics in Number System, Algebra, Expressions and Equations, and Function relevant for secondary school teachers. Emphasis will be placed on integrating algebraic and geometric ideas. This course, in conjunction with Geometry for Secondary Teachers and Statistics/Probability for Secondary Teachers, is intended to provide future teachers with a deep understanding of the content they will be teaching, how it builds from previous understandings students develop in elementary school, and how it extends to concepts at higher levels.

Assessment:

- Homework: 20%, includes weekly assignments and reflections.
- Classwork: 20%, includes writeups of notes, in-class exit tickets, problem presentations.
- Midterms: 2x15% each
- Final Exam: 20%
- Project: 10%

Homework will be due roughly once a week. Reflections or carefully rewritten class notes will be collected and graded periodically. Excellent note-taking is essential, as your notes will be your textbook!

Grades will be calculated using the standard scale:

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<th>Grade Range</th>
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<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-93%</td>
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<td>87-90%</td>
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<td>83-87%</td>
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<td>80-83%</td>
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ADA Statement:
The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability and Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written
information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to
the Center for Disability and Access.

**Addressing Sexual Misconduct:**
Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes
sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds
of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected
categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability,
veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or
assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal
Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of
Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact
the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the
Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

**Policies and expectations:**

In order to ensure a vibrant learning environment in which we may discuss coursework, no late
assignments or labs will be accepted. Similarly, quizzes and exams may not be made up in advance
or after the fact without serious extenuating circumstances. The University of Utah student code
allows for making up quizzes or exams *in advance* for “officially sanctioned University Activities ..., or
government obligations, or religious obligations”. Please contact me at least one week in advance
of any such obligations to arrange accommodation.

In general, keep your devices put away during class. Take active part in class discussions and
activities. Calculators, but not smart devices are allowed on quizzes and exams.

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. The Student Code for the University of Utah can be
found at: [http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php](http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php)

**Official Dates:**
The last day to drop classes is [date]; the last day to withdraw from this class is [date]. Please check
the academic calendar for more information pertaining to dropping and withdrawing from a
course. Withdrawing from a course and other matters of registration are the student’s
responsibility.

**Wellness Statement:**
Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural
differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive at the University of
Utah. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness at www.wellness.utah.edu or
801-581-7776.
Safety Statement:
The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.