ECON 1078 - 001
Math Tools for Economists - I
Fall 2009

Instructor: Neil Metz

Class Meetings: MWF 2:00-2:50pm, RAMY N1B23

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Office: Econ 313

Office Hours: MW 1:00-2:00pm and by appointment

Office hours are held for your benefit. You are highly encouraged to come to my office hours with prepared questions.

Course Websites: https://webfiles.colorado.edu/metzn/www/index.htm
This is my website where you will go to find general information and updates.

http://www.colorado.edu/economics/courses/ECON1078/1078home.html
This is the web page developed by all Econ 1078 instructors. You can find homework and exam problems from previous semesters here.

Course Description and Objectives:

The goal of this class is to provide students with the mathematical tools needed for future courses in business and economics. We will cover rules of algebra, polynomials, functions, solving systems of equations, logic, probability, and differentiation.

Textbook:

Essential Mathematics for Economic Analysis, 3rd edition, by Knut Sydsater, and Peter Hammond is technically "required". Economics 1088 (Math Tools II) uses the same textbook. This is a very good reference book, which you may use in the future to refresh your knowledge of algebra and calculus. I will highly recommend that you have this book (or the 2nd edition) but I will not assign problems to be turned in. The practice problems that I will suggest come from the 3rd edition.

Calculator Note:
> As this is a course designed to teach mathematical techniques you will need a calculator that can do basic mathematical functions. These include exponentials, logarithms, radicals, and factorials (log, ln, e^x, $\sqrt[n]{}$ and x!). Any basic scientific calculator will perform these functions. While a graphing calculator may be useful in doing some of the homework problems, **you cannot use a graphing calculator on exams or quizzes. You also cannot use a cell phone calculator on quizzes or exams.**

Grading:

The grades for the course will be based on the standard scale:

93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	below 60%	F

Your grade will come from the following breakdown:

> 15% - Quizzes (Top 4 out of 5 scores)
> 10% - In-Class Assignments
> 20% - Midterm 1 (September 23rd)
> 20% - Midterm 2 (November 4th)
> 35% - Final (December 17th, 7:30-10:00 a.m.)

Quizzes
> There will be a total of five quizzes given during the semester. The lowest of your quiz scores will be dropped. *There will be no makeup quizzes given.*

In-Class Assignments
> Randomly throughout the semester I will assign problems for you to work on in class, which you will hand in to me before you leave. These problems are intended to provide practice and will be similar to problems you will see on quizzes and exams. As with the quizzes, the lowest of your in-class assignment scores will be automatically dropped. *There will be no makeup assignments given.*

Problem Sets
> For each chapter, I will suggest a list of problems from the book that will be good practice for the exams and quizzes. These problems will *not* be handed in, but I highly encourage you to attempt as many of them as possible and ask questions as necessary.

Exams

Expectations of Classroom Behavior:
Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions.
See polices at
http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at
http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code

Absences:
Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to reasonably and fairly deal with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please notify me as soon as possible so that the proper arrangements can be made. Students can see full details at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html

Disabilities Statement:
If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, and http://www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices. Time extensions for exams must be approved by me prior to the exam. If you have not talked to me personally prior to the exam you will not be granted an extension.

Disability Services' letters for students with disabilities indicate legally mandated reasonable accommodations. Other letters/requests you may receive from agencies such as the Wardenburg Student Health Center, or other health providers, such as physicians or counselors, are recommendations you may choose to follow to assist students but are not necessarily legal mandates. The syllabus statements and answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at
http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices