# MAT3503 Functions and Modeling Course Syllabus

## Course Calendar

Key: E# (Exams), HW# (Homeworks), MJ# (Math Journal), L# (Lessons), D# (Discussion Posts), P# (Projects)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<td>August</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>8/21 L1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23 L2</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25 L3, D1</td>
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<td>September</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>28 L4, HW1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30 L5</td>
<td>31 9/1 L6, D2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>4 No Class</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 L7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8 L8, D3</td>
<td>10 MJ1</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>11 L9, HW2</td>
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<td>13 L10</td>
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<td>15 L11, D4</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>18 Review</td>
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<td>20 E1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22 L11</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>25 L12, HW3</td>
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<td>27 L13</td>
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<td>29 L14, D5</td>
<td>10/1 MJ2</td>
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<td>18 L19</td>
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<td>25 L21</td>
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<td>27 L22, D8</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
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<td>3 L25, D9</td>
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<td>8 E3</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>13 L26</td>
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<td>15 L27</td>
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<td>Week 14</td>
<td>20 P1</td>
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<td>Week 15</td>
<td>27 L29</td>
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<td>29 L30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12/1 L31, D11</td>
<td>3 MJ5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 16</td>
<td>4 P2</td>
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<td>6 Classes End</td>
<td>7 Reading Day</td>
<td>8 Reading Day</td>
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Instructor

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Phone: (352)-294-2383
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Office Hours: TBD

Course Description

This course challenges students in lab based settings to expand upon their knowledge of secondary mathematics topics related to precalculus and calculus.

Course Grade

The course grade is based on 500 points. Add up your points, then use the scale below to determine your letter grade. Your course grade is determined by the number of points you have and will be strictly enforced. Within one-half of a point (not percent) or above will be rounded up to the nearest point.

- A = 450-500 points (90%)
- A- = 435-449 points (87%)
- B+ = 420-434 points (84%)
- B = 400-419 points (80%)
- B- = 385-399 points (77%)
- C+ = 370-384 points (74%)
- C = 350-369 points (70%)
- C- = 335-349 points (67%)
- D+ = 320-334 points (64%)
- D = 300-319 points (60%)
- D- = 285-299 points (57%)
- E = 0-284 points

University policy stipulates that a minimum grade of a C must be achieved to obtain Gordon Rule or General Education credit.

Information on UF grades and grading policies
(https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx)

Information on dropping courses and withdrawals:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/drops.aspx#drop

Drops and withdrawal deadlines:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/adfall1718.aspx

The 500 points are accumulated from the following assignments:
• Discussion Posts (best 10 of 11 at 2 points each).................................20 points
• Homeworks (best 5 of 6 at 20 points each).................................100 points
• Math Journals (5 at 20 points each)..................................................100 points
• Class Participation (best 30 of 34 at 3 points each)..................30 points
• Exams (3 at 50 points each)............................................................150 points
• Projects (2 at 50 points each).........................................................100 points

NOTE: best # of # means the lowest score is dropped and does not count towards your grade.

Course Assignments

Assignment: Discussion Posts

• Every week you will answer a prompt in the Discussions section on the course website (canvas). You respond to at least two of your classmates’ posts within a week after the post is due. Credit for your post will be given based on your thoughtfulness and completeness in answering the prompt and in responding to your classmates.

Assignment: Homeworks

• Homework is assigned on a class by class basis and is collected and graded in batches every other week. You will be expected to turn in all the preceding weeks’ homework assignments except for any homework that was assigned the class before the collection date. For example, the first homework batch is collected on 8/28, which includes any homework assigned on 8/21 and 8/23, but not 8/25. Homework from 8/25 would be collected on 9/11.

Assignment: Math Journals

• Math Journals are weekly reflections that will consist of two parts each between 1-2 paragraphs in length. You will complete a reflection once a week and turn them in in batches of three every three weeks. Your first Math Journal collection is on 9/10 and includes the reflections from weeks 1-3 of the course.
  o Part 1: Consider the topics covered in class this week. Pick a topic that you feel was the most valuable for you to learn. Explain. (Do you think you can use it in your everyday life, does it have applications to your major, was it useful for understanding something from another class, etc. What you consider valuable is a personal reflection of your goals, ideals, and priorities.)
  o Part 2: Pick a topic that you feel was the least valuable for you to learn? Explain.

• Credit will be given based on completeness, thoughtfulness, and honesty of reflection.
Assignment: Class Participation

- You are expected to attend every class and participate to the best of your ability.

Assignment: Exams

- You will take three exams during class. These exams will assess your understanding of the material covered in the classes preceding the exam dates. Exams are implicitly cumulative but not explicitly.

Assignment: Projects

- You will complete projects at the end of the semester. More details will be provided at a later date.

Attendance and Late or Missed Work

Attendance:

- You **should** be in class at or before the start of class. If you are more than 10 minutes late you will **NOT** receive any credit for that day’s assignments.

Absence, Late, and/or Missed Work:

- For assignments that allow drops (discussion posts, homeworks, and class participation), make-up or late work will not be allowed or accepted until the number of allowed drops on the assignment are used up.
- For other assignments (exams, math journals, and projects) please click the following link for information on the University of Florida’s absence policies [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx)
  - The instructor reserves the right to not allow or accept make-up or late work in the absence of legitimate reasons for missed or late work.

Extra Help Resources

- The Teaching Center Math Lab, located at SE Broward Hall, offers free informal tutoring. ([www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu](http://www.teachingcenter.ufl.edu))
- A list of qualified private tutors for hire is available on the UF math website, search “tutors” ([www.math.ufl.edu](http://www.math.ufl.edu))
- The Counseling Center offers information on developing your mathematics confidence. Visit their website for more information ([http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Developing-Math_Confidence.aspx](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Developing-Math_Confidence.aspx))

Student Heath and other Concerns
In addition to being students you are also human beings with lives outside of school. It is understood that there are times in your life when due to illness or other circumstances your school work may not take top priority or suffer. It is extremely important that you seek the help that you need AND keep your instructors informed of the situation.

Student Heath Care Center: [http://shcc.ufl.edu/](http://shcc.ufl.edu/), (352) 392-1161

Counseling and Wellness Center: [http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx), 352-392-1575

Dean of Students at 202 Peabody Hall, [http://www.dso.ufl.edu](http://www.dso.ufl.edu), (352) 392-1261 ext. 213

Any of these can provide you with help and other resources in addition to providing you with documentation for your instructors. If your instructors are aware of the situation, then they can be flexible with due dates and work with you to achieve an optimal situation. You need to inform your instructors of the situation PRIOR to assignment due dates. In light of health concerns, it is fair for instructors to allow you to complete assignments after due dates if necessary, but it is not fair to allow multiple attempts on assignments that normally do not allow for this. If you wait until due dates have already passed and assignments are already completed, then your options become limited and the longer you wait in the semester the more limited your options become.

**Note:** While I will work with you and provide you with extra help and opportunities to succeed in light of any extenuating circumstances, I absolutely will NOT provide you with points you did not legitimately earn or “go easy” on assessing your academic performance. **Personal struggles do not entitle you to a grade you did not earn.** You will still be held to the same academic standards as everyone else in the course. The decision to persevere in the course or not is yours to make.

**Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**Academic Honesty**

All students are required to abide by the University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity. Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines shall result in judicial action and a student being subject to the sanction in paragraph XIV of the Student Code of Conduct. The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines (University of Florida Rule 6C1-4.017)
Honor Pledge: We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

The use of unauthorized aids, including but not limited to calculators, computation knowledge engines or apps, and work from other individuals, on any assignment is PROHIBITED. The use of such aids constitutes a violation of academic honesty. Violations will result in a minimum of receiving a zero on the assignment and may result in further action.

YOUR GRADE IS BASED ENTIRELY ON YOUR WORK IN THE COURSE. Basing your grade on any other factors or providing you with points you did not legitimately earn is extremely unethical. It is unethical for you to ask for this and it is unethical to comply.