

# Casper College Course Syllabus

**Course Number/Title:** Math 0925 Section N60 (24 Aug – 16 Oct)  
Section N70 (21 Oct – 11 Dec)  
Math Study Skills

**Semester/Year:** Fall 2015

**Lecture Hours:** Internet delivery

**Lab Hours:** N/A

**Credit Hours:** One

**Class Time:** Internet delivery

**Meeting Days:** Internet delivery

**Building/Room:** N/A

**Instructor's Name:** Mark Hladik (MLC code name: "Eta")\*

## Contact Information

**Office:** Wold Physical Science Building, Room 104A (PS 104A)

**Office Hours:** generally 7 AM – 3 PM (same hours as the Math Learning Center, PS 104)

**Phone:** (307) 268 – 2738

**e-mail:** [mhladik@caspercollege.edu](mailto:mhladik@caspercollege.edu)

**Course Description:** Research-based procedures and skills to improve student's Math learning and course grades, and reduce test anxiety

**Prerequisite(s):** None

**Course Goal(s):** Increase a student's ability to learn Mathematical topics;  
Improve a student's ability to study Math;  
Demonstrate methods of analyzing Math problems;  
Reduce a student's innate fear of Math;  
Teach techniques of dealing with test anxiety, and channeling energy into positive outcomes  
Motivate students to increase their desire to learn and succeed in Math

**Outcomes:** The successful student will be able to:

- 1) demonstrate effective oral and written communication in relation to Mathematics;
- 2) solve unique problems using critical thinking and creativity;
- 3) use appropriate technology and information sources to conduct research, solve problems, present results to others;
- 4) understand why and how Math is different from other academic subjects;
- 5) assess and use individual Math-learning strengths to one's advantage;

- 6) improve memory and retention processes;
- 7) reduce Math and test anxiety;
- 8) improve time management, and optimize study time (for all classes)
- 9) know how to create a positive study environment, including (but not limited to) using a Cooperative Learning Environment;
- 10) increase listening and note-taking skills;
- 11) change reading and homework strategies, and adapt to variable situations in the academic environment;
- 12) use better Math exam skills;
- 13) take control of Math, and know that one is the Master of Math, not the servant.

**Course Objectives:** Mathematics are the foundation of virtually all the sciences. Regardless of one's major, some ability to use Mathematical reasoning and structure assists in understanding those processes found in the Universe. The vast majority of the human population fear, or dislike, Math. In this class, the objective is to try to get the student to see that Math is, in fact, logical, and straightforward, and is not a subject to fear or detest. Unlike many subjects, the Mathematical Theory does not change; it may expand as new discoveries are made, but the underlying foundation is immutable. Unlike most other academic pursuits, Math forces mental discipline, hence the necessity of studying some level of Math in a wide variety of subjects.

Math is a tool, not a weapon. Completing this class, the successful student will have tools to embrace Math as a pathway to further discovery.

**Methodology:** This is an on-line class, using Internet delivery for all required materials. Students will be required to participate in on-line forum discussions, complete assigned readings (see **Required Materials** below), and one optional assignment.

**Evaluative Criteria:** S/U grading only; a minimum of 70 points (out of 100 possible) must be obtained from the following categories:

Five required assignments:	50 points total
On-line (Moodle) discussion questions:	40 points total
One optional assignment (out of four to choose from):	10 points total
Total available points:	100 possible maximum

Grading the discussion questions is at my discretion. There are no "wrong" answers to questions by you or your classmate's postings, but a reply or original post should be substantive. Simply typing, "I agree with ..." and nothing more is NOT substantive.

Upon request, and schedules permitting, we may also arrange for a live meeting in a CC classroom. Any such meeting(s) would be optional.

**\*Note that Casper College may collect anonymous samples of student work demonstrating achievement of any or all of the above *Goals, Outcomes, Objectives, and/or Methods*\***

**Required Materials:** Internet access; Moodle log-in ID and password; e-mail address (CC supplies each student with a unique account; you may use any e-mail address you choose, and there is a forwarding option with CC e-mail); *Winning At Math*, Fifth Edition, by Nolting, Dr. Paul D.; Academic Success Press [ISBN 978 – 0 – 940287 – 39 – 6]. CC bookstore has copies and can take phone/internet orders. There is an optional ‘workbook’, but this is at your own discretion. The text and on-line discussion forums will be the key to this class.

**Class Policies and Procedures:** Obviously there is no “attendance”, other than submitting written assignments and posting on Moodle forums. As an eight-week class, you should plan to make time to do the readings, response writings, and postings at least once per week. For the five mandatory written assignments, each will come with a due date; the optional assignment will be due not later than the last day of class ( N60: 16 October; N70: 11 December ); there is no “Final Exam”, nor is (are) there any ‘extra credit’ assignment(s). Your Forum postings will be graded subjectively by me as an aggregate; meaningful posts will earn a higher ‘grade’ than simple quantity of postings. If you can say it all in one sentence, this is better than a Shakespearian soliloquy rivaling *War and Peace*. Written assignments will be compared to an established rubric, available upon request, unless the assignment is a reflection exercise.

**Last date to change to Audit, or Withdraw from this course:**

N60: 05 September 2015  
N70: 26 October 2015

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College student.

**Academic Chain of Command:** If a problem arises in this class, you should first plan to contact your instructor, and make a good-faith attempt to resolve the issue. *Very often*, all that is involved is a mis-understanding, or some mis-communication (e-mails get lost or undelivered, typos in hand-outs, etc.). Be polite, be respectful, and above all, be ready for a resolution of the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by your instructor, you should make contact with the appropriate Department Chair (Dr. Debra Swedberg, PS 343; (307) 268 – 2251;

or [swedberg@caspercollege.edu](mailto:swedberg@caspercollege.edu) ). The next level is the Dean of the School of Science (Dr. Grant Wilson, PS 132A; (307) 268 – 2593; or [gwilson@caspercollege.edu](mailto:gwilson@caspercollege.edu) ). The next hierarchy in the Chain of Command is the Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed, or expulsion from Casper College. Please refer to the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**\*Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College e-mail account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible for checking their account on a regular basis. This is also the place you will receive course evaluation links during end-of-the-semester course evaluation periods. A facility exists to have your CC e-mail forwarded to a mailbox of your choice. Contact I. T. if there is any problem establishing a forward-service (x-3648).

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you are in need of accommodations, please see me privately as soon as possible, or make your request with Casper College's Disability Services Counselor, Brent Heuer, in Gateway 344; phone (307) 268 – 2557, or [bheuer@caspercollege.edu](mailto:bheuer@caspercollege.edu) His responsibility is to review any documentation provided by the student, determining eligibility for accommodations, assisting students in obtaining needed accommodations, and notifying the student's instructors. In most cases, reasonable accommodations will be provided. If an accommodation cannot be supplied, please explore with me other means of allowing you to complete coursework in a timely fashion.

### **Tentative Calendar/Due Dates/Closing Dates:**

Section N60 (24 August 2015 – 16 October 2015)

Week One: \*Cover Syllabus, read Introduction materials, post your Intro onto Moodle, obtain (24 Aug – 28 Aug) class text; plan your schedule and note due dates on assignments

\*Read Chapter One in text, respond to Discussion Question One

\*Read Chapter Two, respond to Discussion Question Two

Week Two: \*Monday, 31 August, **written assignment** for Chapter Two is due (31 Aug – 4 Sept)

\*Read Chapter Three, respond to Discussion Question Three

Week Three: \*Read Chapter Four, respond to Discussion Question Four  
(7 Sept – 11 Sept)

\*Friday, 11 September, **written assignment** for Chapter Four is due

Week Four: \*Read Chapter Five, respond to Discussion Question Five  
(14 Sept – 18 Sept)

\*Read Chapter Six, respond to Discussion Question Six

Week Five: \*Monday, 21 September, **written assignment** for Chapter Six due  
(21 Sept – 25 Sept)

\*Read Chapter Seven, respond to Discussion Question Seven

Week Six: \*Monday, 28 September, **written assignment** for Chapter Seven due  
(28 Sept – 2 Oct)

\*Read Chapter Eight, respond to Discussion Question Eight

Week Seven: \*Monday, 5 October, **written assignment** for Chapter Eight due  
(5 Oct – 9 Oct)

\*Read Chapter Nine, respond to Discussion Question Nine

\*Read Chapter Ten, respond to Discussion Question Ten

Week Eight: Last week of class; clean up any Discussion Questions you may be  
(12 Oct – 16 Oct) deficient on

\*Friday, 16 October, your **Optional Written Assignment** is due

\*Friday, 16 October, your Chapter Two evaluation is due

Friday, 23 October S/U grades issued

Section N70 (19 October 2015 – 11 December 2015)

Week One: \*Cover Syllabus, read Introduction materials, post your Intro onto Moodle, obtain (19 Oct – 23 Oct) class text; plan your schedule and note due dates on assignments

\*Read Chapter One in text, respond to Discussion Question One

\*Read Chapter Two, respond to Discussion Question Two

Week Two: \*Monday, 26 October, written assignment for Chapter Two is due (26 Oct – 30 Oct)

\*Read Chapter Three, respond to Discussion Question Three

Week Three: \*Read Chapter Four, respond to Discussion Question Four (2 Nov – 6 Nov)

\*Friday, 06 November, written assignment for Chapter Four is due

Week Four: \*Read Chapter Five, respond to Discussion Question Five (9 Nov – 13 Nov)

\*Read Chapter Six, respond to Discussion Question Six

Week Five: \*Monday, 16 November, written assignment for Chapter Six due (16 Nov – 20 Nov)

\*Read Chapter Seven, respond to Discussion Question Seven

Week Six: \*Monday, 23 November, written assignment for Chapter Seven due (23 Nov – 27 Nov)

\*Read Chapter Eight, respond to Discussion Question Eight

Week Seven: \*Monday, 30 November, written assignment for Chapter Eight due (30 Nov – 4 Dec)

\*Read Chapter Nine, respond to Discussion Question Nine

\*Read Chapter Ten, respond to Discussion Question Ten

Week Eight: Last week of class; clean up any Discussion Questions you may be (7 Dec – 11 Dec) deficient on

\*Friday, 11 December, your **Optional Written Assignment** is due

\*Friday, 11 December, your Chapter Two evaluation is due

Friday, 18 December S/U grades issued

C. V. for Mark Hladik

Casper College Math Learning Center Specialist 2009 –  
Casper College Math Adjunct 1992 – (not continuously until 2009)

Big Horn Airways; Air Taxi Pilot, operating Casper satellite base 1998 - 2008

Consultant, 1988 –

Geophysicist, Unocal, R. M. District 1980 - 1990

University degrees in Physics, Geology, Math

Resident of Casper, Wyoming since 1980

Married; my wife and I are raising our four grandchildren (born in 2003, 2005, 2008, 2009)

Wyoming Professional Geologist #2504

Society of Exploration Geophysicists, Certified Petroleum Geophysicist #009

American Association of Petroleum Geologists, DPA Member

Fellow, Geological Society of America