

MATH 260A: Topics in Mathematics

3 Credits, 3 hours lecture

Problem solving in different areas of mathematics. Note: This course is intended for Education students and is not open to science students.

Prerequisites: Math 160 or teaching experience at elementary or junior high school level.

Instructor

Instructor Name: Matthew Morin

Office location: S211E

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Office Hours

Monday 13:00 – 15:00

Wednesday 13:00 – 15:00

Friday 11:00 – 12:00

Hours of Instruction

Tuesday 13:00 – 14:20 (S205)

Thursday 13:00 – 14:20 (S205)

Required Resources

No course textbook. Resources available on Moodle (<http://ilearn.keyano.ca>).

Course Outcomes

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain what is meant by winning and drawing strategies and apply the Sprague-Grundy method to find said strategies.
- Create graphs to model a variety of problems and utilize the structure of the graphs in order to solve the problems.
- Convert between worded statements and logic notation and evaluate the truth value of a variety of compound statements.
- Analyze arguments using the theory of logic.
- Understand and apply geometric properties and relationships to determine the measure of angles and/or measure of sides within complex figures.
- Decide whether two triangles may be congruent or similar.
- Solve linear and quadratic equations using algebraic techniques.
- Apply elimination and substitution techniques to solve systems of linear equations.
- Calculate probabilities using the classical and empirical methods and describe the difference between these methods.
- Use the addition and multiplication rule to compute probabilities of events including “or” and “and” statements.

Evaluation

Assignments	20%
Activity Lesson Plan	5%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	50%
Total	100%

A grade of C- is required for progression or transfer.

Assignments:

In any mathematics course the best way “to learn” is “to do.” The instructor can teach you about the course ideas and demonstrate the mechanics of solving the problems—and can make it look very easy—but growing adept at solving these problems will take a lot of practice and can be a struggle. Although the assignments do not count for a large part of your final grade they are essential in preparing you for the types of problems you will be solving on the exams.

Assignment completion is a requirement of the course. Failure to complete all the assignments may result in a failing grade for the course.

The assignments are sets of problems (posted on Moodle) that you will solve at home then hand in your solutions to in-class. A cover page is not required, but the assignment number, the course number, and your name should be clearly written on the front page. The solutions to the problems should be presented in the order that they were listed in the assignment. If more than one page is needed, then the pages should be stapled together (in the proper order). A late assignment may be accepted, or may incur a penalty depending on the circumstances. Once marked assignments are returned to the class, no further late assignments can be submitted.

In addition to the submitted paper copy, **a digital version of each homework set must also be uploaded to our course's Moodle page.** If your solutions are handwritten, you may scan your work at one of the college photocopiers (such as the Library, the Skill Center, or the Info Commons), have the copier email the scan(s) to your Keyano email account, and then upload to our Moodle page.

Although you are permitted to work with other students while completing assignments, it is essential that the work you present is your own—see the section on Academic Misconduct later in this outline for more information. Presenting other students' solutions as your own may result in serious academic penalties. If you are working together with other students on a problem, it is vital that at the end of the process YOU know how to solve the problem and that YOU write out your own solution in your own way. If there is suspicion of academic misconduct, you will be required to defend the work you have submitted.

It is recommended that you attempt the assignments yourself before talking over problems with your classmates. If you need help with a problem you can come to office hours, visit the Skill Center, and (yes) talk to your classmates. However, this does not mean looking through a classmate's solution. Rather, it is best if you talk about the problem. If you do not understand what the problem is asking for, then it could be useful to read through the relevant sections of the course notes.

Assignment completion is a requirement of the course. Failure to complete all the assignments may result in a failing grade for the course.

Tests:

All tests will be written and are closed-book. For this class, basic calculators are permitted during the exams. The dates of the tests will be announced in-class and on Moodle well in advance of the test date. The details of the topics covered by tests will be given and a sample test will usually be

provided. These tests are meant to test how well you have “mastered” the subject matter. Satisfactory completion of the relevant assignment problems, reading the relevant textbook sections, and studying the course notes is the very minimum amount of work that should prepare you for the types of problems that could appear on a test. However, as the larger tests are cumulative in nature, you may be solving problems that require ideas that bridge across several sections of the course.

Grading System

Descriptor	Alpha Grade	4.0 Scale	Percent	Rubric for Letter Grades
Excellent	A+	4.0	> 92.9	Work shows in-depth and critical analysis, well developed ideas, creativity, excellent writing, clarity and proper format.
	A	4.0	85 – 92.9	
	A-	3.7	80 – 84.9	
Good	B+	3.3	77 – 79.9	Work is generally of high quality, well developed, well written, has clarity, and uses proper format.
	B	3.0	74 – 76.9	
	B-	2.7	70 – 73.9	
Satisfactory Progression	C+	2.3	67 – 69.9	Work has some developed ideas but needs more attention to clarity, style and formatting.
	C	2.0	64 – 66.9	
	C-	1.7	60 – 63.9	
Poor	D+	1.3	55 – 59.9	Work is completed in a general way with minimal support, or is poorly written or did not use proper format.
Minimum Pass	D	1.0	50 – 54.9	
Failure	F	0.0	< 50	Responses fail to demonstrate appropriate understanding or are fundamentally incomplete.

Proposed Schedule of Topics

Week	Dates	Topic
1	Aug. 30 - Sept. 3 (Classes begin Aug. 31)	Two-Player Games
2	Sept. 6 - Sept. 10 (No classes: Sept. 6)	Strategies, Sprague-Grundy Method
3	Sept. 13 - Sept. 17	Modelling Word Problems, Systems of Linear Equations
4	Sept. 20 – Sept. 24	Solving Quadratics, Graph Terminology
5	Sept. 27 - Oct. 1	Isomorphism, Euler Circuits
6	Oct. 4 - Oct.8	Hamilton Circuits, Planar Graphs
7	Oct. 11 - Oct. 15 (No Classes: Oct. 11)	Graph Colouring, Logic: Statements and Connectives
8	Oct. 18 – Oct. 22	Midterm Exam (Oct. 19) Truth Tables
9	Oct. 25 – Oct. 29	Analyzing Arguments
10	Nov. 1 – Nov. 5	Basic Geometry, Triangle Congruence
11	Nov. 8 – Nov. 12 (No Classes: Nov. 10, 11, 12)	Congruence (cont.), Similar Triangles
12	Nov. 15 – Nov. 19	Quadrilaterals, Area
13	Nov. 22 – Nov. 26	Basics of Probability, Compound Events

Week	Dates	Topic
14	Nov. 29 – Dec. 3 (No classes: Dec. 3)	Independence/Dependence
	Dec. 8 – Dec. 16	Exam Period

Please Note:

Date and time allotted to each topic is subject to change.

Performance Requirements and Student Services**Student Responsibilities**

It is your responsibility as a student to contact the Office of the Registrar to complete the forms for Withdrawal or Change of Registration, and any other forms. Please refer to the list of important dates as noted in the Academic Schedule in the Keyano College credit calendar. The Keyano College credit calendar also has information about Student Rights and Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

Student Attendance

Class attendance is useful for two reasons. First, class attendance maximizes a student's learning experience. Second, attending class is a good way to keep informed of matters relating to the administration of the course (e.g., the timing of assignments and exams). Ultimately, you are responsible for your own learning and performance in this course.

It is the responsibility of each student to be prepared for all classes. Students who miss classes are responsible for the material covered in those classes and for ensuring that they are prepared for the next class, including the completion of any assignments and notes that may be due.

Academic Misconduct

Students are considered to be responsible adults and should adhere to principles of intellectual integrity. Intellectual dishonesty may take many forms, such as:

- Plagiarism or the submission of another person's work as one's own;
- The use of unauthorized aids in assignments or examinations (cheating);
- Collusion or the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing work;
- The deliberate misrepresentation of qualifications;
- The willful distortion of results or data;
- Substitution in an examination by another person;
- Handing in the same unchanged work as submitted for another assignment; and
- Breach of confidentiality.

The consequences for academic misconduct range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from the College. More specific descriptions and details are found in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct section of the Keyano College credit calendar. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of the guidelines outlined in the Student Rights and Code of Conduct Policies.

In order to ensure your understanding of the concept of plagiarism, you must successfully complete the online tutorial found on ilearn.keyano.ca. Then print the certificate, sign it, and show it to each of your instructors. Your course work may not be graded until you show this signed certificate.

Specialized Supports

The Student Services Department is committed to Keyano students and their academic success. There are a variety of student supports available at Keyano. Due to the continuing situation with the Covid-19 pandemic, the offered support services will be implemented through a model to respond to the restrictions in force at the time. In-person and virtual services will be offered. All Alberta Health Services guidelines will be followed for in-person appointments—wear a mask, maintain two meters of physical distance, use hand sanitizer, and stay home if you are unwell.

All student services are available during Keyano business hours: Monday to Friday, 8h30-16h30. The College is closed for statutory holidays. If you require support outside of regular business hours, please inform the support service team, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

Accessibility Services: provides accommodations for students with disabilities. Students with documented disabilities, or who suspect a disability, can meet with a Learning Strategist to discuss their current learning barriers and possible accommodations. Students who have accessed accommodations in the past are encouraged to contact us to request them for the semester. Please note that requesting accommodations is a process and requires time to arrange. Contact us as soon as you know you may require accommodations. For accessibility supports and to book an appointment, please contact accessibility.services@keyano.ca.

Accessibility Services also provides individual and group learning strategy instruction for all students, as well as technology training and supports to enhance learning. Meet with a Learning Strategist to learn studying and test-taking strategies for online classes. Schedule an appointment with the Assistive Technology Specialist to explore technology tools for learning. Book an appointment today by emailing accessibility.services@keyano.ca

Wellness Services: offers a caring, inclusive, and respectful environment where students can access free group and individual support to meet academic and life challenges. Mental Health Coordinators offer a safe and confidential environment to seek help with personal concerns. Students may access services virtually and in-person.

Wellness Services welcomes students to participate in any of the group sessions offered throughout the academic year addressing topics including mindfulness and test anxiety.

Individual appointments can be made by emailing wellness.services@keyano.ca.

Library Services: provides students with research and information supports as they engage in their studies. Library staff are available to support you both online and in-person throughout the semester. For a detailed list of library supports and services, go to www.keyano.ca/library. For all inquiries, please email askthelibrary@keyano.ca or chat with us online.

Begin your research with the [Library's FIND page](#). Search for information and sources for your assignments using the OneSearch, the Library's Catalogue, or by searching in a specific database selected from the [A-Z Database List](#).

Individual support with us is available. For support with citations, research and other information needs, appointments can be booked using the online [Book A Librarian Calendar](#). For support with Moodle, educational tools for assignments, Microsoft Office, Zoom, Teams and more, book an appointment using the online [Educational Technology Support Calendar](#).

Research and subject guides are helpful resources when beginning your research, assignment, using new educational technology, or addressing other information needs. To view a subject or course-specific guide, check out the complete listing of online [Subject Guides](#).

To access additional research resources, including Citation Guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, or IEEE), go to the [Research Help Library page](#).

The Loanable Technology collection is available to support students in their learning pursuits, whether online, in person or both. Items available for borrowing include mobile projectors, webcams, noise-cancelling headphones, Chromebooks, and laptops. For an up-to-date list of technology available for borrowing as well as support available, go to the Library's [Loanable Technology webpage](#).

Academic Success Centre: The Academic Success Centre is a learning space in the Clearwater Campus (CC-119) at Keyano College. Students can gather to share ideas, collaborate on projects, get new perspectives on learning from our Academic Content Specialists, or use the Centre's educational resources. The Academic Success Centre provides academic support services to students registered in credit programs at Keyano College in the form of individual tutoring, writing support groups, facilitated study groups, workshops, and study space. Services are **free** to Keyano students.

Academic Content Specialists are available in the areas of Math, Science, Human Services, and English/Humanities. This covers all courses offered at Keyano. The Academic Success Coach can also be found in the Academic Success Centre.

For the most up to date information on how to book a session, please view [the Keyano Academic Success Centre homepage](#).

Academic Integrity: The goal of the Academic Success Centre is to foster a student's ability to learn effectively and independently. Students registered at Keyano College are welcome to drop by the Centre to visit with any of our Academic Content Specialists to discuss their academic concerns.

Availability: Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Flexible times may be available upon request. Virtual and in-person sessions, please email to get in contact with our Academic Content Specialists. For the most up to date information on how to book a session, please view the [Academic Success Centre homepage](#).

Academic Success Coach: offers you support and access to resources for your academic success to help you to find the Keys to your Success. The Academic Success Coach will work with you to develop an academic success plan, develop your study and time management skills, and connect you with the right resources here at Keyano. Academic.success@keyano.ca is the best way to access resources during blended service delivery. The Academic Success Coach is located in the Skill Centre in CC-119 at the Clearwater Campus.

E-Learning

Technology and internet will impact your online learning experience. It's important that you can watch an online video and other course materials, take online quizzes and participate in a live class with your instructor and other students. Live/virtual classes will be hosted in Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

For all course delivery types, you will access your course resources on Keyano's learning management system, **Moodle (iLearn)**. Login in using your [Keyano username and password](#).

Keyano College operates in a Windows based environment, and having the correct tools for online learning is important. Here's a list of recommended system requirements.

Internet Speed

Minimum Internet speeds of 10 Mbps.

Recommended Internet speeds of 25 Mbps (especially if you are sharing your internet at home).

Check your internet speed with [Fast.com](#).

System requirements:

Microsoft Windows	Apple
<p>Minimum Requirements:</p> <p>A Windows 10 computer/laptop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Minimum 4GB of RAM. · 10GB+ available hard drive storage. · Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees. · Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended. · System updates must be regularly installed. · Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software 	<p>Minimum Requirements:</p> <p>A Macintosh (V10.14 and above) computer/laptop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Minimum 4GB of RAM. · 10GB+ available hard drive storage. · Enough available hard drive space to install the Microsoft Office suite (approximately 3GB). <u>Microsoft Office</u> software is free to all Keyano students and employees. · Microphone, webcam and speakers. A headset with a microphone is recommended. · System updates must be regularly installed. · Anti-Virus / Anti-Malware software.
<p>Recommended Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 8GB of RAM · A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free. 	<p>Recommended Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 8GB of RAM · A method of backing up/synchronizing to local or cloud-based storage such as OneDrive is highly recommended. This is included if you complete the setup of KeyanoMail and download MS Office using your Keyano email for free.
<p>Chromebooks are not recommended as they are not compatible with testing lockdown browsers.</p> <p>A Microsoft Surface or iPad or iPad Pro may be possible alternatives in some program areas.</p>	

Specific Department Requirements:

Business and OA programs require Windows 10.
Other programs may utilize Windows based tools as well.

Computer Software

Students will be able to get access to Microsoft Office 365 for free using Keyano credentials by [clicking here](#).

Recording of Lectures and Intellectual Property

Students may only record a lecture if explicit permission is provided by the instructor or by Accessibility Services. Even if students have permission to record a lecture or lecture materials, students may not share, distribute, or publish any of the lectures or course materials, this includes any recordings, slides, instructor notes, etc. on any platform. Thus no student is allowed to share, distribute, publish or sell course related content (instructor, or students) without permission. It is

important to recognize that the Canadian Copyright Act contains provisions for intellectual property. The [Academic Integrity Policy](#) provides additional information on Keyano College's expectations from students as members of the intellectual community.

ITS Helpdesk

If you are having issues with your student account, you can contact the ITS Helpdesk by emailing its.helpdesk@keyano.ca or calling 780-791-4965.