

## MTH 201 — ELEMENTARY MATH FOR TEACHERS I ADDENDUM

**Instructor:** Matthew Lorentz Email: [lorentzm@msu.edu](mailto:lorentzm@msu.edu)  
Website: <https://users.math.msu.edu/users/lorentzm/>

**Lectures:** 10:20 - 11:40pm Mon & Wed Wells Hall A230

**Office Hours:** 1:00-2:00 Mon & Tue C318 Wells Hall  
(subject to change) Or by appointment C318 Wells Hall

**Materials:** Mathematics for Elementary Teachers with Activities  
Sybilla Beckmann, ISBN: 9780134392790

**Course description:** MTH 201 is the first of a two-course sequence focusing on the mathematics needed for teaching in elementary school. MTH 201 focuses on numbers and operations; MTH 202 focuses on number theory, geometry, and measurement. These are mathematics content courses, not courses in methods of teaching. The main goal of these courses is to deepen your understanding of the mathematics taught in contemporary elementary schools. By this we mean that you should know not just how to calculate with whole numbers and fractions, use geometric formulas, and solve standard word problems; you should also learn why the computational algorithms work, when to use each operation or formula, and whether alternative solution methods might also be applicable. In this course you will also study (i) how to represent concepts and procedures in ways that help children make sense of mathematics, (ii) what concepts and procedures elementary school pupils might find difficult and what errors they are likely to make, (iii) how topics in the mathematics curriculum are related to each other, and (iv) how to begin to create appropriate word problems for different mathematical concepts.

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of MTH 103 or an equivalent course, or exemption based on placement test score.

**Attendance:** All students are expected to attend and participate in each class, discussion session, and exam. A student who misses a class meeting is responsible for any assignments and/or announcements made.

**Assessments:** We will have ~~3 in-class exams~~ 2 in class exams, a cumulative final exam, in class activities, and daily homework.

HOMEWORK (WEIGHTED):	<del>200 points</del> 28% of final grade
<del>11</del> 9 IN-CLASS QUIZZES, 10 POINTS EACH:	<del>100 points</del> 15% of final grade
NOTE: LOWEST 2 QUIZ SCORES DROPPED	
<del>3</del> 2 IN-CLASS EXAMS, 100 POINTS EACH:	<del>300 points</del> 28% of final grade
FINAL:	<del>200 points</del> 29% of final grade

**Homework:** There will be a homework assignment corresponding to each class which may be found on D2L. The homework will consist of exercises from the book and occasionally problems related to class activities.

- The homework will be turned in weekly and is due on Mondays but may be turned in until Wednesday at 11:59pm.
- You will submit your homework on D2L as a *single PDF*.
- Each homework is worth  $13\frac{1}{3}$  points. I will “randomly” grade two questions in detail worth 4 points each. The remaining  $5\frac{1}{3}$  points are based on completion.
- Multiple files, or file formats other than PDF will receive little to no credit.
- Late work will not be accepted.

**Exams:** The exam dates are as follows

- (1) February 8
- (2) ~~March 22~~ April 12
- (3) ~~April 19~~ canceled

Attendance on these dates is compulsory; otherwise, a grade of zero will be recorded. Any student who has an excused, documented conflict with an exam time must inform their instructor **within the first two weeks of the semester** when possible. Late requests will either be denied or will result in an automatic deduction from the exam score.

**Final:** The Final exam will take place on 05/02/2023 from 10:00am to 12:00pm. All students must take the final.

### Grades:

The following table gives a minimum grade for each score. For example, an overall score of 850 is guaranteed to earn at least a 3.5 grade.

Grade	4.0	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.0
Score (total percentage)	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%

**Sources of help:** All students are encouraged to come to *office hours* to discuss homework questions or material from class. If the advertised times do not suit you, please email me for an appointment.

**Classroom policies:** Please refrain from using electronic items, including calculators, cell phones, music players, tablets, laptops, etc., during class, except for note-taking. Please arrive, be seated and ready to start each class on time. If you have a valid reason to leave early, please sit near the exit to minimize disruption.

**Academic integrity:** All students are expected to abide by the university’s Conduct Code. Academic sanctions for dishonesty may include receiving an F in the assignment or receiving an F in the class. There may be additional administrative sanctions.

<https://ombud.msu.edu/resources-self-help/academic-integrity>

**Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD):** I am happy to work with you and the RCPD Program if you need course accommodations due to a disability. RCPD is located in Bessey Hall (<https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/services>). All course modifications must be arranged through RCPD. You are encouraged to start this process as early as possible.

**Religious Observances:** The faculty and staff should be sensitive to the observance of these holidays so that students who absent themselves from classes on these days are not seriously disadvantaged. It is the responsibility of those students who wish to be absent to make arrangements at least 2 weeks in advance with their instructors.

**Course Supervisor:** If you have a problem regarding MTH 201 that is not resolved after talking with your instructor, please contact the Course Supervisor, Dr. Kevin A. Lawrence, C301 Wells Hall, Michigan State University, [kevlawr@msu.edu](mailto:kevlawr@msu.edu), (517) 355-9694. Best wishes for a successful semester!

**Credit/No Credit Option** For spring semester 2023 only, undergraduate students have the option to choose CR-NC until the end of the semester. This means, students will be able to review their posted spring 2023 course grades beginning May 10, 2023, and will have until 11:59 p.m. (EST) May 17, 2023, to select the CR-NC grade reporting option. (More info at <https://advising.msu.edu/about/credit-no-credit>)