

Math 98 – Foundations for Contemporary Mathematics

Course Description and Objectives: Math 98 is designed to prepare students for success in Math 105. Students whose degree or program requires Math 65, Math 95 or Math 111 should not take Math 98. Throughout this course the student will develop critical thinking skills, gain number sense, build estimation skills and solve realistic problems. By focusing on relevance and context, the student will learn to think algebraically, will understand basic statistics and will use data and functions in mathematical modelling. Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to: Demonstrate knowledge of numerical skills in a variety of contexts based on the course objectives; Interpret and communicate statistical and mathematical concepts using a variety of graphical and computational methods; Apply algebraic skills and reasoning to solve problems based on the course objectives; and Identify properties of a function and create mathematical models.

Materials Needed:

- **Pathways to Math Literacy** by Sobeki and Mercer with an 11-week ALEKS Access Code
- A Math 98 Course Packet
- A calculator (graphing or scientific)
- Daily access to a Computer, Excel and the Internet
- A 1-inch or larger binder solely for this course
 - **Keep everything in the binder at all times!**

Success in Math 98: Earning a C grade or higher in Math 98 is needed in order to move on to Math 105. For testing purposes the course is divided into four modules. Each module includes daily group work, portfolio work, ALEX skills work, and an exam. The exam at the end of Module 4 is the final exam and is cumulative.

Task:	Percent of Grade
30 Portfolios (Technology and Application):	25%
ALEKS Skills Pie	10%
3 Module Exams:	45%
1 Final Exam:	20%
Attendance/Participation	Final Grade Bump UP or DOWN

Attendance/Participation: Your work with a group is critical to the success of this class. If you miss too many classes or are not participating during class then your final grade will be one grade level lower. If you miss 4 hours of class you will be warned. If you miss 8 hours of class your final grade will be reduced one letter grade. On the other hand, if you have great attendance and participation and you are close to a grade cut-off then I reserve the right to bump you to the higher grade category when I submit final grades. **Attending class means you arrive on time, you stay until the end of class and you actively work with your group.**

Grades: Course letter grades will be assigned according to a standard 90%, 80%, 70%, 60% category scale. You must earn at least a C grade (70%) to move on to MTH 105. Your grades for assignments, ALEKS and exams will be kept in Schoology. Your final grade will be calculated according to the following rule:

$$\left(\frac{\text{Portfolio Total}}{540}\right)(0.25) + (\text{ALEX Pie Percent})(0.10) + \left(\frac{\text{Module Exams Total}}{300}\right)(0.45) + \left(\frac{\text{Final Exam}}{150}\right)(0.20)$$

Incomplete Grades: Incompletes are given solely at the instructor's discretion. In order to be temporarily issued an incomplete, the student must be doing passing work, have good attendance and be missing one major element of the course, such as the final exam. An agreement must be made between the instructor and the student for the completion of the missing work by a specified date, so that a grade can be issued.

Expectations:

- Be motivated! You are the biggest factor in your success. Work hard and do not give up! If you need help, talk to your instructor.
- Attend every class! Group work is a critical part of each class. Your group needs you.
- Be an active member of your group. As you discuss concepts with your group everyone will benefit.
- Use Learning Center resources: Tutoring, the Math 50/98 room in WH227, the Math Angle and the Math Help Desk.
- If you do miss class, email your instructor and contact your group.

Portfolio Assignments: In addition to in-class group work for each lesson, you will complete two types of homework. These are outlined on the Portfolio pages at the end of each lesson. Homework will include a technology Excel assignment and applications in the text. Each portfolio assignment is worth 18 points. There are 30 Portfolio assignments. Late work will be assessed a penalty and will earn at most 75% of the points. Any homework turned in after the exam deadline will earn no credit.

Technology (8 points each): The technology assignments involve Excel. Excel work will be demonstrated in class and there will be helpful video tutorials or templates available in Schoology. Excel work will be submitted in Schoology on the appropriate page in your schoology.com course. No late work accepted at all. Turn in whatever is complete at the time it's due.

Applications (10 points each): There are problems to complete and turn in after each lesson. These are located after the Portfolio page in the textbook and will be removed from the book to submit in class. No late work accepted at all. Turn in whatever is complete at the time it's due.

Once a lesson is completed both parts of the portfolio assignment are due by the beginning of the next class. Your instructor will explain how to turn in technology/Excel homework through Schoology. The portfolio page and the application problems will be turned at the beginning of the next class period. You should keep your graded assignments and any class notes in a binder for reference. Staying current and being organized are two goals of the course.

ALEKS Skills: Daily work in ALEKS is a critical element to this class. It is through ALEKS that you will recover skills you have forgotten and build on what was learned in class. The first time you log into ALEKS your current skill level will be assessed. Take your time and do as well as you can on this assessment. You should log into ALEKS several times a week and make progress on your pie. Your goal is to master 100% of the skills by the end of the course. There will be ALEKS Pie Progress check points during the term as well as required Module Skills Review assignments. By the first exam you should have mastered at least 25% of the course skills. By the second and third exams you should have mastered 50% and 75% respectively. Your final ALEKS pie mastery percentage is what will be averaged into your course grade.

Module Exams: The three module exams will be taken in the Testing Center. Your instructor will explain the details to you. Deadlines for these exams will be announced in class and are listed on the calendar. In order for you to take the exam you will need the Module Test Ticket from your course packet signed by your instructor. You will present the test ticket to the Testing Center when you want to take the exam. You will not have a time limit, however, you must begin any exam more than one hour prior to the closing of the Testing Center and you must hand in your exam when the center closes. If you need more time, then it is up to you to begin your test earlier in the day.

Taking Exams Past the Deadline or Retaking a Module Exam: Any exam taken after the deadline and any second attempt, if allowed by your instructor, will earn at most 80%. Retakes of an exam are not generally allowed.

Final Exam: The final exam will be taken in the Testing Center during finals week. The final exam will be cumulative. There is a ticket in your module packet for the final exam. Take the final exam by Wednesday of finals week and pay close attention to the hours of the learning center. The learning center is closed after Wednesday of finals week.

Library and Computer/Email/Schoology Help: The Library on the Albany Campus has a drop-in computer lab where you can access Schoology and ALEKS to get homework done. There is a help desk for computer-related issues located in the Library also.

Learning Environment:

- Learning how to interact as part of a group is an important life skill. In this class, you will work daily as part of a group. At all times there must be a respectful exchange of ideas.
- Please exercise responsible cell phone etiquette. If something important needs to be addressed, then step out of the class to take care of the issue. Texting during class is not appropriate.
- Laptops and tablets are great! You may bring your laptop or tablet to have available if there is time to work on Excel or ALEKS. Playing games or updating Facebook is not appropriate.

Center for Accessibility Resources: LBCC is committed to inclusiveness and equal access to higher education. If you have approved accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR) and would like to use your accommodations in this class, please talk to your instructor as soon as possible to discuss your needs. If you believe you may need accommodations, but are not yet registered with CFAR, please go to <http://linnbenton.edu/cfar> for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

Statement of Inclusion: The LBCC community is enriched by diversity. Everyone has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance and goodwill. We will work toward creating a community without prejudice, intimidation or discrimination.

Statement of Nondiscrimination: LBCC prohibits unlawful discrimination based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, use of native language, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, veteran status, age, or any other status protected under applicable federal, state, or local laws.

Academic Dishonesty: Cases of academic dishonesty, as defined in the Student Code of Conduct, will be reported to the Dean of Students. These include, but are not limited to, cheating on exams, copying daily work from other students, submitting Excel files that others created, etc. First offenses will be given a zero on the assignment and reported. Additional offenses will be reported and the student will receive a failing grade in the course.