## WINTER 2010 MATH 396 ELEMENTARY PROBLEM SOLVING MON-WED 12:00 – 1:50 PM in MNB 103

Professor: Dr. Mary Beisiegel<br/>Office: MNB 126Phone: 503-838-8916<br/>Email: beisiegm@wou.edu

## **Class Meeting Times and Schedule**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 AM				MTH 211	
				<b>MNB 103</b>	
9:00 AM	MTH 211		MTH 211		MTH 211
	<b>MNB 103</b>		<b>MNB 103</b>	↓ ↓	<b>MNB 103</b>
10:00 AM	OFFICE		OFFICE	MTH 212	OFFICE
	HOUR		HOUR	<b>MNB 104</b>	HOUR
11:00 AM	MTH 212		MTH 212		MTH 212
	<b>MNB 103</b>		<b>MNB 103</b>	Ĵ	<b>MNB 103</b>
12:00 PM	MTH 396		MTH 396	Lunch	Lunch
	<b>MNB 103</b>		<b>MNB 103</b>		
1:00 PM					
	V		V		
				-	
2:30 PM	OFFICE		OFFICE		
- 3:30 PM	HOUR		HOUR		

Please feel free to drop by my office during my office hours for help. You do not need to make an appointment to come to office hours. At times other than my listed office hours you are welcome and encouraged to call or email me with questions about the course. If you have direct scheduling conflicts with my office hours and would like further help, please let me know.

PREREQUISITES: Mathematics 211, 212, and 213 with a grade of C- or better.

TEXT: "Problem Solving Strategies Crossing the River with Dogs", Johnson and Herr

**COURSE CONTENT:** This course is designed for students planning to be elementary or middle school teachers. Our goals for this term are to:

- Improve problem solving skills by building upon and extending knowledge acquired in the foundational sequence;
- Learn to write non-routine problems that introduce, enhance or illustrate important mathematical themes or ideas;
- Become proficient in using the state problem solving scoring guide;
- Use the Math Forum Resource to experience reading, replying, and evaluating young problem solvers' solutions.

**ATTENDANCE:** Daily attendance is required for your success in this course. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to ask a classmate for notes on the material you have missed.

**READING THE TEXT**: It is a good idea to carefully read the section before you start your homework. I encourage you to ask questions about the examples presented in the book. You may ask questions about the text both in class and during office hours.

**HOMEWORK**: There will be five main categories of homework assignments: Text Problems, Journals, Problems of the Week, Portfolio Problems, and Math Forum

**TEXT PROBLEMS HOMEWORK**: The homework assignments will usually not be assessed directly but by a peer review process on their due date. Exams will be based on homework problems and in-class activities. I will check random homework problems to find out how everybody is progressing.

**JOURNAL HOMEWORK:** There will be three journal assignments (with corresponding quizzes) throughout the quarter. Please see the <u>Journal Assignment</u> sheet (on the course web page) for more details.

**PROBLEMS OF THE WEEK (POWs):** Throughout the course, you will be assigned (roughly) bi-weekly special problems to help you focus on clear and precise explanations. More detailed information is provided on the <u>POW Assignments</u> sheet.

**PORTFOLIO PROBLEMS**: Throughout the course, you will be asked (roughly) bi-weekly to write a problem geared toward a student in grades 4 - 7. More detailed information is provided on the <u>Portfolio Assignments</u> sheet.

**MATH FORUM**: In the latter portion of the course, we will work with the Math Forum's Online Mentoring Program. In this portion of the course, you will each mentor elementary school students across the country answering the Problem of the Week.

**EXAMS**: There will be two mid-term exams in this course and one final. All exams are timed, and the Final Exam is an in-class group final. Make-up or early exams will only be given in the case of a documented emergency or a documented university sanctioned absence from class. Prior notification and my agreement are required.

**COURSE NOTEBOOK**: Please file your work into a 3-ring binder divided into these sections: Class Notes & Activities; Text HW; Portfolio; Journal Assignments; POWs; Math Forum

**COURSE GRADING:** Each day your participation in class will be noted. Documented excuses for illness will be accepted for late work. Notification must be prompt and in advance.

Exams (Midterms and Final)	400 pts.
POWs	3x36  pts = 108  pts.
Journal Assignments	3x20  pts = 60  pts.
Text Problems Homework	6x25pts= 150 pts.
Portfolio Problems	3x42 pts=126 pts.
Math Forum Mentoring and Virtual Fieldwork Sequence	406 pts.

APPROPRIATE CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR: Proscribed Conduct for all students is described in the University Catalog. In particular for this course any student found cheating on an exam or copying from another student's exam paper will receive a zero score on that exam. Turn off your cell phones before class. DO NOT TEXT IN CLASS!

**LATE WORK POLICY**: All work is due by 4:30 p.m. on the due date. All due items may be turned in, unexcused, 1 class day late (by 4 p.m.) for 80% credit or 2 class days (by 4 p.m.) late for 60% credit. There will be NO credit for assignments more than 2 class days late.

**LEARNING DISABILITIES**: If you have a documented learning disability, please talk to me during the first few days of class. I will accommodate you in any way that I can. If you have a documented disability, which requires any academic accommodations, you must go to the Office of Disability Services (ODS) for appropriate coordination of your accommodations. You can drop by APSC 405 or call ODS (503) 838-8250 (VTTY) to schedule an appointment.

**INCOMPLETE POLICY:** An Incomplete can only be granted for a student who is passing a class and has a documented emergency that prevents him/her from completing the course.

## STANDARD GRADING: Students with a 95% going into the final exam will be exempt.

**H1N1 CASES**: If you feel that you have a case of the H1N1 flu, then the CDC encourages you to stay home and not to go see your doctor. If possible, please let me know if you think you will be missing class because of illness. Because I cannot ask you for a doctor's note, you are on the honor system.