

FALL 2007: MATH 119 – IDEAS IN GEOMETRY

**General Information.**

Instructor: Tom Cooney  
 Email: [tcooney@math.uiuc.edu](mailto:tcooney@math.uiuc.edu)  
 Office: 150 Altgeld Hall  
 Class Webpages: <http://www.math.uiuc.edu/~tcooney/math119>  
<http://www.math.uiuc.edu/Courses/math119>  
 Lecture Room and Time: 147 Altgeld at 9am on MWF  
 Deadline to Drop: Friday, October 12th  
 Textbook: *Ideas in Geometry - Course Notes* by Bart Snapp.  
 Available at TIS for roughly \$23.  
 Office Hours: MWF at 10am or by appointment.

**Grading.** There are 500 points to earn in this course:

- 30 points for each homework—we will have 4 homework assignments.
- 50 points for each exam—there will be 4 hour exams.
- 40 points for the take-home exam.
- 140 points for the final (or 120+20 for computer lab).

You can check your grades at <http://compass.uiuc.edu>.

Grades will be based on the following:

	334-349	D+	384-399	C+	434-449	B+	484-500	A+
0-299 F	317-333	D	367-383	C	417-433	B	467-483	A
	300-316	D-	350-366	C-	400-416	B-	450-466	A-

**Homework.** All homework should be neat, one-sided, easy to read, and stapled (if more than one page). If you do not follow these instructions, I reserve the right to give you **no credit** for your work. Make sure to explain your work and to present it in a logical order. Late homework will be penalised and will not be accepted after either solutions have been handed out or other students have had their homework returned.

You may work in groups on your homework but each of you must hand in your own work, in your own words. **Answers that correspond with those of your classmates verbatim are not acceptable.**

**Exams/Final.** We will have four exams, not including the final. They will be announced at least a week in advance and will be spaced evenly throughout the semester. We will discuss their format in class. There will be a take-home exam near the end of the semester. **Calculators will not be allowed on any tests.**

- The final is on Monday, December 10th from 8:00–11:00 AM.

**Policies.** If you have a personal problem (an illness, accident, or family crisis) which prohibits you from participating in any aspect of this course, you need to have the Emergency Dean send me a letter to excuse you from your absences. You can contact the Emergency Dean at (217) 333-0050. Visit <http://www.odos.uiuc.edu/emergency/> for more information. Remember, you miss school, you miss out!

**Cheating will be dealt with harshly and mercilessly.**

**Course Overview.** This course fulfills a general education requirement for Quant Reasoning I. General education course in mathematics, for students who do not have mathematics as a central part of their studies. The goal is to convey the spirit of mathematical thinking through topics chosen mainly from plane geometry. Prerequisite: Two units of high school algebra; one unit of high school geometry; or equivalent.

Here is a **rough** outline of what we will be covering this semester.

- Chapter 1: Axioms, Viewpoints, Finite Geometries.
- Exam 1
- Chapter 2: Topics in Plane Geometry.
- Exam 2
- Chapter 3: Proof by Picture.
- Exam 3
- Chapter 4: Compass and Straight-edge Constructions.
- Exam 4
- Take Home Exam
- Computer lab
- Chapter 5: Convex Sets.
- Final Exam

A **compass** will be required later in the course. One choice is the Alvin 201, available at the U of I bookstore for about \$6.

**And finally...** I'm looking forward to getting to know you all. Come talk to me in office hours or email me to make an appointment. I'm here to help! **Have a great semester!**