Dr. Brian K. Miceli  
Math 1190 - Putnam Exam Seminar  
Fall 2015

My URL: http://www.trinity.edu/bmiceli

All of the my contact information and office hours can be found at the above URL. In addition, all information which is pertinent to this course, including a copy of this syllabus and all information regarding exams and homework assignments, can be found at the above web page by following the proper links.

**Time & Place:** MATH 1190-01 meets Thursdays from 2:10 PM - 3:25 PM in CSI 337.

**Office Hours:** My office is located in MMH 115F. For the exact times of my office hours, consult the Course URL. I may also be available by appointment.

**Textbook:** There will be no textbook for this course.

**Prerequisites:** There are no prerequisites for this course, although a passing grade in Math 1308/1312 is helpful.

**Course Content:** This will first and foremost be a course in problem solving and communication. The focus of this course will be on having fun and using techniques acquired in other math courses to solve interesting problems.

**Expectations:** The workload for this course will be appropriate for a one-credit course, although I would be more than happy to oblige students who are interested in doing extra work for this course outside of the weekly assignments.

**Homework & Presentations:** Homework will be assigned most weeks. These assignment will consist of one or two problems to get geared up for what we will discuss on Thursdays, and they will be turned in for a grade as well. Each Thursday where homework is due, I will also ask someone to present on the board what they have for the problem(s). This is meant to be used as a way to highlight different solutions to problems as well as to introduce new methods and topics and not as a method of academic torture.

**Quizzes:** On some Thursdays we will have quizzes rather than problem discussion. The purpose of these quizzes is to see different types of problems while working on the writing aspect of solutions. Quizzes also give some practice towards the time management aspect of the actual Putnam Exam. Every quiz is out of 10 points, and students may drop their lowest quiz score at the end of the semester.

**Class Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory, and students are expected to be on time. Each student is allowed a single unexcused absence without penalty, and each unexcused absence past that will result in a 5% deduction from the attendance portion of the final grade.

**Putnam Exam Attendance:** Students enrolled in this course are expected to attend both sessions of the Putnam Exam for the full amount of time. Failing to do so without prior consent from the instructor will result in a course grade of “F”. This year the A and B sessions of the Putnam Exam will take place on Saturday, December 5th, from 9:00 to noon and 2:00 to 5:00, respectively.
**Grades:** Your overall score in the course will be based upon your scores on the homework and presentations, in-class quizzes, class attendance, and attendance at the Putnam exam. The percentage values are as follows:

- Homework & Pres.: 20%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Attendance: 20%
- Putnam Exam: 40%

Your letter grade will be determined by your overall percentage at the semester’s end, and the class grades will be curved.

**Academic Integrity:** All students are covered by a policy that prohibits dishonesty in academic work. Under the Honor Code, a faculty member will (or a student may) report an alleged violation to the Academic Honor Council. It is the task of the Council to investigate, adjudicate, and assign a punishment within certain guidelines if a violation has been verified. Students who are under the Honor Code are required to pledge all written work that is submitted for a grade: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this work” and their signature. The pledge may be abbreviated “pledged” with a signature.

**Student Accessibility Services (SAS):** If you have a documented disability and will need accommodations in this class, please speak with me privately early in the semester so that I may be prepared to meet your needs. If you have not already registered with SAS, contact the office at 999-7411. You must be registered with SAS before I can provide accommodations.