

Course Information

Math 1430–03

Fall 2001

Instructor: Prof. Lance Drager

September 27, 2001

Instructor: Prof. Lance D. Drager. Office: Math 236. Office Phone: 742–1429. If you let the office phone ring long enough, you’ll get me or a voice mail system you can leave a message on. My e-mail address is: drager@math.ttu.edu.

Office Hours: Office Hours: MWF 11:00–12:00 and 2:00–3:00. I am often in my office at other times. You can come by outside of formal office hours; I’ll usually have time to talk to you. Please feel free to come by if you need help.

Course Organization: The MWF classes will be conducted by me, with a lecture format. Please feel free to ask questions in class. I appreciate your feedback on the pace of the lectures, concepts that are particularly difficult, or anything else on your mind.

The Tuesday and Thursday classes will be conducted by a Teaching Assistant and will be devoted to discussing the homework, examples and answering questions. Some Tuesday or Thursday classes will be devoted to working on group projects.

Other Sources of Help: The Department of Mathematics and Statistics runs a help session called the “Missouri Club,” which is available for this class. See the notice posted at the Department office for time and place.

The Department Office has a list of people who offer tutoring for pay. The PASS Center has many resources for helping students. Forming informal study groups with other students can be very helpful.

Text: The text is R.A. Barnett, M.R.Ziegler, K.E. Byleen, **College Mathematics for Business, Economics Life Sciences and Social Sciences, Ninth Edition**, Prentice Hall, 1999, ISBN 0-13-092054-1. Material to be covered: Appendix A (A-3 through A-9), Chapter 1, Chapter 2, Chapter 3, Chapter 6, Chapter 4 (4-1 only), Chapter 7.

Calculator: You need a calculator that can do matrix operations (matrix multiplication, inversion, etc.) See me if you’re unsure about a particular model.

	Raw (x)	Rescaled (y)	
A	95	96	$y = \frac{100 - 90}{100 - 86}(x - 86) + 90$
	92	94	
	86	90	
B	83	86	$y = \frac{90 - 80}{86 - 78}(x - 78) + 80$
	82	85	
	78	80	
C	75	76	$y = \frac{80 - 70}{78 - 70}(x - 70) + 70$
	73	74	
	72	73	
(cut off at 70)			
D	66	67	$y = \frac{70 - 60}{70 - 55}(x - 55) + 60$
	64	66	
	61	64	
	58	62	
F	55	60	$y = \frac{60}{55}x$
	50	48	
	48	52	
	47	45	
	40	44	

Table 1: Grade rescaling

Grading: The grading will be based on the following.

1. Three (possibly four) in-class exams.
2. The final exam. (Departmental Exam, the same exam that Math 1330 will take.)
3. Homework.

The in-class exams and the final exam will all be equally weighted. I will drop the lowest of the exam scores (which could be the score on the final). If you are satisfied with your grades on the three in-class exams, you can skip the final and let that be the dropped exam grade. Exams will be announced well in advance.

The Homework assignments will count for 30% of the final grade, and the exams will count for 70%.

For each exam or assignment, I (or the TA) will determine a grade range for the A's, B's, C's, D's and F's. I will then linearly resale the grades in the A range to the interval $[90, 100]$, the grades in the B range will be rescaled to the interval $[80, 89]$, and so forth.

At the end of the course, I will simply average the grades and assign letter grades with cutoffs 90% for A, 80% for B, 70% for C and 60% for D; I might lower these a little, but not much. Thus, with this system, you can determine your standing at any time.

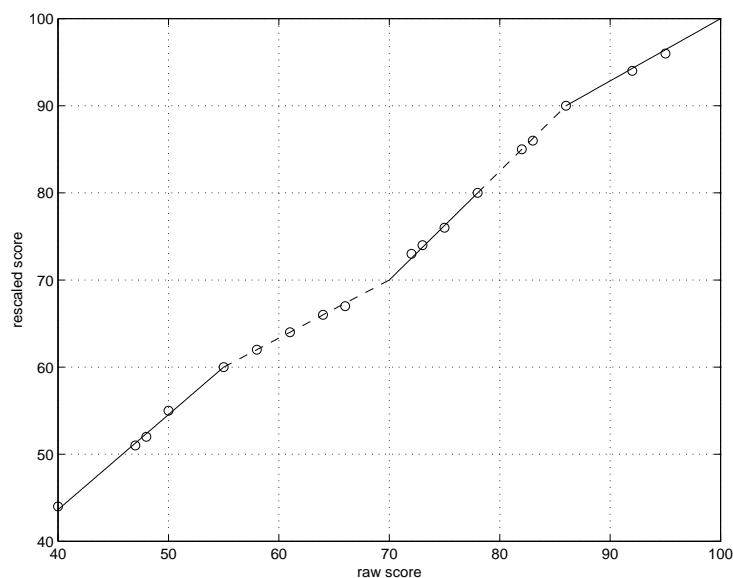


Figure 1: Graph of the grade rescaling function

For example, consider a hypothetical exam with the raw scores as in Table 1. The grade ranges might hypothetically be chosen as indicated. The numerical scores would then be rescaled as indicated in the table, using the formulas on the right and then rounding to the nearest point. The grade rescaling function would be as graphed in Figure 1. (The idea is that a score that was, say, halfway between the B and C cutoffs should wind up halfway between 70 and 80. If you have any questions ask me. I'm just getting the details on record here.)

Final Exam: The final exam is on Friday, December 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The location will be announced in class (and posted at the Dept. of Math and Stats office) near the end of the semester. You will be required to hand in a blank bluebook, with your name on it, for the final during the last week of classes. It will be returned to you at the final.

Class Attendance: It is very important to attend class. Class attendance will be taken. A student will be allowed two unexcused absences without penalty, but only one of these may be before the first exam. After the two unexcused absences, each unexcused absence will result in a decrease of four points in your final semester average, with a corresponding effect on your letter grade. Of course, if you have a legitimate excuse, you will not be penalized and we will make arrangements for you to make up the work.

Remember, you are responsible for all material covered in class and all announcements made in class. If you have to miss a class, you should check with me, the TA, or a classmate to see what happened.

Makeups: If you miss an exam you can, at your option, take that as the

exam score to be dropped. If you are absent from an exam and have a legitimate excuse, I will give a makeup exam. (The two unexcused absences do not apply to exams, of course.)

Identification: You should be prepared to show your Texas Tech picture ID at any exam.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. Students should present appropriate verification from Disabled Student Services, Dean of Students Office. No requirement exists that accommodations be made prior to completion of this approved University process.

Religious Holy Days: A student may be absent from class for a religious holy day, as legally defined, and will be allowed to make up any missed examination or assignment within a reasonable time after the absence. You must notify me within the next week of any scheduled class days on which you will be absent for a religious holy day.