MATH 161 POLICIES

INSTRUCTOR: NAM TRANG, RH 410N
OFFICE HOURS: M 12–1, W 1:30–2:30

OFFICIAL COURSE NOTES *Modern Geometry*, by Michael Hvidsten, McGraw-Hill 2012. You can purchase a copy of the textbook here:
https://www.amazon.com/Geometry-Explorer-Michael-Hvidsten/dp/0073129909

ADD/DROP AND ENROLLMENT QUESTIONS In Mathematics classes, decisions pertaining to wait-lists, adds, drops, and pass/no-pass changes are NOT made by the Professors, and Professors have NO ability to change these policies. Refer to these links for information for how to navigate the system:

http://math.uci.edu/undergrad-courses/course-registration-and-placement-information#Top

http://math.uci.edu/undergrad-courses/course-registration-and-placement-information##3

CLASS OBJECTIVES This course gives an overview of different developments in geometry: Euclidean geometry, analytic geometry, and non-Euclidean geometry. We will cover parts of Chapters 1-5 of the text and if time allowed, parts of Chapters 7 and 8.

EXAMS There will be one midterm and one final.

MIDTERM: Monday May 8, 2017

FINAL: Tuesday June 13, 2017 1:30–3:30pm @SST 220A (see WEBSOC)

HOMEWORK There will be roughly 6-7 homework assignments. The homework is 15% of the course grade. You get to drop one lowest homework score. Thus, I will not collect late homework unless you have a legitimate reason for turning it in late.

QUIZZES Quizzes are given in discussion on the day homework is due. So there are the same number of quizzes as homework. You get to drop the lowest quiz score. Quizzes make up 20% of your course grade.

FINAL GRADES
FINAL: 40% MIDTERM: 25% HOMEWORK 15% QUIZ: 20%
The letter grades will be based on a curve at the end after all grades have been recorded and finalized.

NO EXTRA CREDITS WILL BE GIVEN Everyone will be evaluated based on the same

criteria.

EMERGENCIES No make-up exams will be given unless I am provided with proper documentation.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY This class follows strictly UCI's rules and policies on academic honesty and integrity. Please follow the link on the class webpage and read the policies carefully. You are expected to be fully aware of consequences of violating the codes.

STUDYING TIPS

- The purpose of coming to lectures is more to listen to what's being said rather than to copy what's on the board. You will get the most out of class if you think about the problems being discussed and participate by trying to answer. After the lecture, while the discussion is still fresh in your mind, you should write your notes out carefully, filling in any gaps and adding any comments you heard in the lecture. If you don't understand what you've written, bring your questions to discussion/office hours.

- Math is about being logical and communicating your understanding. This means writing in sentences! Because we will be discussing and trying different approaches to solve problems in class, these examples will often not be written 100% formally. When you write your notes, try to write up the class examples as formally as you can.

- The answers to the homework are there so you can see examples of answers written formally. Compare these answers with your own and think about how you can improve.

- All this work requires time: you should be spending at least as much time studying outside of lectures/discussions as you spend inside. You shouldn't expect a good grade just from turning up to class. Treat college like a full-time job.

- Here's a good self-test. When you've finished writing some notes, or a homework answer, always ask yourself two questions:

  1. Will I understand what I've written in a few weeks?
  2. Could someone else understand what I've written without my being there to help explain it?

  If the answer to both these questions isn't yes, then you shouldn't expect to get an A...

- Finally, here are some metrics:

  - A grade of C/C- means you've shown you can handle any classes that follow on from this one.
  - An A grade means two things:
    (i) You know the definitions and theorems well enough to be able to apply them to unfamiliar situations.
    (ii) You should be able to stand at the board and teach much of the course material.