

# Discrete Math 2021-2022 – 1st Semester

## Contact Information

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## Book Publisher Course Description

*Mathematical Excursions, Fourth Edition* teaches you that mathematics is a system of knowing and understanding our surroundings. For example, sending information across the Internet is better understood when one understands that prime numbers are connected to credit card transactions; that compound interest is connected to student loans; and that the perils of radioactive waste take on new meaning when one understands exponential functions are connected to the disasters at Fukushima, Japan. The efficiency of the flow of traffic through an intersection is more interesting after seeing the system of traffic lights represented in a mathematical form. These are just a few of the facets of mathematics you will explore with this text. MATHEMATICAL EXCURSIONS will expand the way you know, perceive, and comprehend the world around you. Enjoy the journey!"

## Textbook Information

Our course uses the book *Mathematical Excursions, Fourth Edition*, published by Cengage Learning. ISBN: 1-305-96558-2. Physical textbooks may be available for checkout by reaching out to the high school media center.

## Student Expectations

As you begin, you may feel anxious about the new year and you may wonder if you are prepared for another year of higher level math. Don't worry, your concerns are normal. This course has been designed, and our textbook has been written, with you in mind. If you attend class, work hard, and read and study effectively, you will build the knowledge and skills you need to be successful. Here's how:

1. Arrive ready (with all needed materials) and on time
2. Remove your phone from your work area to limit distraction
3. Complete homework on time
4. Ask questions
5. Take notes
6. Be willing to help others
7. Respect your instructor, your classmates, and yourself

## Supplies Needed for this Course:

- Homework notebook (spiral bound or composition)
- 3 ring binder or folder \*
- White-lined paper or spiral notebook \*
- Pen, pencils, highlighter, dry erase markers
- TI-83 or TI-84 Calculator (some may be available for checkout through the media center)

*\* You will benefit from taking notes in this course.*

## Five Essential Things needed for this Class

- **Honesty:** Be honest in conversation, daily work, assessments, etc.
- **Respect:** Respect yourself, other people, personal property, time in class, and ACHS.
- **Positive Attitude:** Attitude and effort are the keys to success!!
- **Be Prepared:** Do your homework, bring your supplies, and be ready for class.
- **Relaxed Environment:** Please ask questions at any time. I welcome any questions you have and want you to feel comfortable learning in our classroom.

## Academic Integrity

All students are expected to commit to high standards of personal and academic integrity. Students are expected to do their own work and document sources appropriately.

## Homework Structure

Homework needs to be completed every day and you need to show all work. Homework is graded on both effort and accuracy. If the student does not complete the assignment on time, they may have extra days to complete it for full credit. No late assignments are accepted after the chapter test. All homework needs to be completed in order to be eligible for retake tests. Homework Quizzes will be recorded under homework. **No retakes on assessments are allowed unless all homework has been completed prior to the reassessment. Please refer to the last page of this document for retake requirements.** Homework is about 10% of your 18-week grade and will be entered into the corresponding standard. Homework problems from the textbook are copied and given as worksheets.

## Assessments

Tests and quizzes are always announced in advance. No books or notes may be used on tests or quizzes, unless specifically noted by the teacher. Tests and quizzes are to be completed during the time allowed.

Students will have optional retakes on tests as long as they meet the requirements outlined on the Discrete Math Retake Requirements form. The second test score will be entered into infinite campus even if that test is lower than the first test. NO EXCEPTIONS.

We plan on working on a few projects each semester, which are also weighted as assessments. Tests and Quizzes are about 90% of your 18-week grade and will be entered into the corresponding standard.

## Formative and Summative Assessment

- **Formative Assessment:** Formal and informal processes teachers and students use to gather evidence for the purpose of improving learning.
- **Summative Assessment:** Assessments that provide evidence of student achievement for the purpose of making a judgment about student competence or program effectiveness.

## Final Exams

We will **NOT HAVE** a final exam at the end of the semester.

## Grading Scale

Minimum Percent	92.5	89.5	86.5	82.5	79.5	76.5	72.5	69.5	66.5	62.5	59.5	Below 59.5
Grade	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F

## Guiding Practices

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### Homework

Homework is an opportunity for students to practice skills, apply knowledge, review and build on past learning, and extend learning. Homework is individualized and based on each student's progress towards established standards. The purpose of the assignment will determine whether or not a grade is given and will be clearly articulated to students. Through independent learning tasks (homework), students assume more responsibility for their learning and are given opportunities to apply what they have learned to new situations or experiences.

### Extra Credit and Bonus Points

To ensure that grades reflect progress toward and achievement of the standards, giving extra credit points and/or bonus points will not occur in this class.

### Absences

Students are expected to attend and actively engage in class each day.

If you do miss a class, please be responsible and talk to the teacher about what you have missed. If you miss an assessment, you will be expected to make it up in a timely manner. If you miss the review day before the test, it will be the expectation that you take the test when you return. The only exception would be if new material was covered that day.

If you have a planned absence for family reasons or school activity, please let your teacher know it advance. If it is possible, please make up the material before being gone. If not, please make up in a timely manner. The class will continue, so we don't want you to get further behind.

### Need Help?

Practice the skills being taught daily, ask questions during class, take notes, and pay attention in class. I want each of you to do the very best job you can in your study of mathematics. I really enjoy solving math problems and I hope math will be fun for you as well. 😊

Still, you may need extra help at some time during this year. Individual help is available with me, by appointment. Get help right away when you need it! Do not wait until right before a summative assessment.

## Behavioral Expectations

The work habits/behavior standards are for grades 6-12 courses in our district. These work habits/behavior standards will be reported throughout the semester and are as follows:

- Organization and Readiness
- Productivity and Accountability
- Collaboration Skills

For those of you accessing this document electronically, the work habits tool can be accessed online: [Work Habit Online Link](#). We will be using the following performance levels:

### Performance Levels for Work Habits/Behavior Standards:

**MS** represents Meets Standard

**PM** represents Partially Meets Standard

**DM** represents Doesn't Meet Standard

**NE** represents No Evidence at this time

These descriptors are intended for feedback and communication and do not impact a student's GPA.

### **Regarding the New High School Credit Law**

*In accordance with a new Iowa law awarding non-high school students HS department credit, Ankeny will be awarding department (Math, Modern Language, PE) credit for any high school course they have taken - such as Algebra I, Spanish I, French I and in some cases, Geometry or Algebra II. While Ankeny Community Schools will be awarding department credit as per the law, students will **not** have that grade calculated into a grade point average based on their performance in the class. This means they will receive a letter grade on their report card and their transcript but that letter grade will not be included in their grade point average.*

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*Ankeny Community School District does not discriminate based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, military affiliation, socioeconomic status, or familial status. Inquiries or grievances may be directed to Kenneth Morris, Director of Equity, 306 SW School Street, 16 P.O. Box 189, Ankeny, IA, 50021-0189, (515) 965-9600, [kenneth.morris@ankenyschools.org](mailto:kenneth.morris@ankenyschools.org); or the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA, 50319-0201, (515) 281-4121; or the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661.*

## Discrete Math Retake Requirements

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Assessment to Retake \_\_\_\_\_

DEADLINE TO RETAKE (**two weeks from date original assessment is returned**) \_\_\_\_\_

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**All of the following requirements must be met in order to be eligible to retake an assessment.**

**The retake grade will replace the original grade (whether it is better or worse).**

**Prior** to the original assessment (HIGHLY RECOMMENDED):

- I completed the assigned homework/practice packet.
- I have completed all of the in-class activities, work, and notes.

**After** the assessment and **before** the reassessment:

- I have completed **additional practice** to review the assessment topics. (*Attach practice*)
- I attended a seminar or visited before/after school to prepare for the reassessment.  
*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_
- I watched a relevant video on the assessment topic from YouTube, Khan Academy, or class website, AND took *thorough* notes on it (notes can be in notebook or else on the back of this page). *Record video title and web address here* \_\_\_\_\_
- I have corrected and shown all of my work to the problems I missed on the first assessment. I have also written out an explanation for each mistake I made. (*Attach corrections with explanations to this page.*)
- I have scheduled a time, date, and place for retaking the assessment. **Consider retaking in S.O.S. after school on Monday through Thursday.**

*Time, date, and place of reassessment:* \_\_\_\_\_

**What will you do differently before future assessments to help ensure that you will be more successful the first time?**