

MTH 3301: Geometry

Sul Ross State University

Fall 2023

Professor: April Maria Ortiz, Ph.D.*

Pronouns & Honorifics: she / her / ma'am / Professor / Dr. Ortiz

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Course Description MTH 3301 is intended as an introduction to classical Euclidean geometry with congruences and constructions. Introductions to other geometries as time permits.

Mathematics Program Outcomes (1) The student will be able to demonstrate content knowledge of basic mathematical principles. (2) The student will be proficient in logic, able to negate statements, provide counterexamples to false statements, and determine the validity of arguments. (3) The student will be able to communicate mathematical content clearly and with valid reasoning.

Marketable Skills (1) Logical and analytical skills. (2) Problem-solving using analytic and algebraic methods. (3) Use of technology in problem-solving and presentation. (4) Communication and pedagogical skills.

Class Meetings Monday and Wednesday, 2:00 – 3:15

Class Location Del Rio 103; Eagle Pass B113; Uvalde B114; ACR 204

Texts Digital texts to be provided as needed.

Course Policies

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to attend class in person in their classroom of registration unless permission is given for extenuating circumstances. You will be held responsible for all material covered in class or in the reading assignments. If you have to miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain all notes, assignments, and announcements from someone else in the class. Make-up exams will be given only in the event of an emergency, in which case written justification and/or documentation must be provided and approved.

Communication

I will post course documents, reminders, announcements, and assignments on the Blackboard system. You will also submit homework on Blackboard. I may also occasionally send announcements via e-mail. You should make sure you know how to access and use these tools. You are welcome to e-mail, telephone, or text me. However you chose to contact me, please make sure to state your name at the beginning of any message.

You are welcome to stop by my office if you wish to speak about the content or your progress in the course. Sometimes meetings come up, so it's best to contact me ahead of time if you intend to travel to Uvalde to see me in person.

* This differs from my current legal name. Let's model a classroom that fosters inclusion of all people.

I am here to help you! Ask questions in class, call me, e-mail me, text me, or come to my office. If you don't communicate with me, then I can't help you.

Grading Policy

Your grades will be weighted as follows:

Participation	5%
Homework	35%
Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%

A student who averages at least 90% will receive an A; at least 80% will receive at least a B; at least 70% will receive at least a C; at least 60% will receive at least a D.

Participation

Your participation grade will be assigned depending on your class attendance and participation in class activities. Simply put, if you always come to class, seem like you're trying to pay attention and take notes, and take part in class activities, then you will get full credit.

Assignments

Each week you will be asked to complete one or more assignments. These will mostly be of the following types:

- Worksheets, completed as Microsoft Word documents (.docx) and submitted on Blackboard.
- [GeoGebra](#) constructions, submitted on Blackboard.
- Pencil-and-paper and hands-on constructions.

Pencil-and-paper constructions should be prepared on blank white paper, with measurements accurate to the nearest tenth of a centimeter if called for.

Assignments will be due by midnight on the Sunday of the week they're assigned. All assignments will be weighted equally unless otherwise noted. Note that, as a student, you can access Microsoft products for free at

<https://www.sulross.edu/oit/>

Exams

There will be one midterm exam. Its tentative date is Wednesday, October 20. This is subject to change. You will be notified of a change at least one week in advance. Make-up exams will be given only in the event of an emergency, in which case written justification and/or documentation must be provided and approved.

The comprehensive final exam will take place at the time scheduled by the university, on Friday, December 8, from 2 – 4 p.m.

Subject Outline

Below is a tentative outline of the subjects we will cover in this course. As time allows, we will also make excursions into the practical aspects of mathematics education among underserved populations in a region with limited access to educational resources.

- I. Logical Systems and Basic Laws of Reasoning: *inductive and deductive reasoning – statements – conditional statements – valid and invalid arguments – the basic linear proof – other types of proof – axiomatic systems*
- II. Axiomatic Geometry: *simple axiomatic geometries – choosing an axiomatic system – Euclid's postulates – an overview of the Elements – defects in Euclid's system – Hilbert's axioms*
- III. A Ruler-and-Protractor Geometry: *basic notions – congruency conditions – triangle inequalities – circles – right triangles – optimization problems*
- IV. The Centers of a Triangle: *the circumcenter – the incenter – the parallel postulate – parallel lines and polygons – the orthocenter – the centroid – the nine-point center*
- V. Area and Construction in Euclid: *constructions and constructibility – par for the course – area in Euclid – Euclid's proof of the Pythagorean Theorem – constructions, length, and area*
- VI. Coordinate Geometry: *the xy -plane – equations of lines and circles – geometry and algebra – constructible numbers – the clatter of the coordinate mill*
- VII. Ratio and Proportion: *triangle similarity – harmonic points and moving ships – inversive geometry – linkages*

Schedule

This schedule is tentative only. The unit numbers refer to the above outline.

Unit I	August 28 – September 6
Unit II	September 6 – 20
Unit III	September 20 – October 9
Unit IV	October 9 – 23
Midterm Exam	October 25
Unit V	October 30 – November 8
Unit VI	November 8 – 20
Thanksgiving Holiday	November 22 – 24
Unit VII	November 27 – December 6
Final Exam	December 8, 2 – 4 p.m.

University Statements

Distance Education Statement. *Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.*

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

SRSU Accessibility Services. *Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartze Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director at 432-837-8203 or email mschwartz@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.*

Counseling Services. *Sul Ross has partnered with TimelyCare where all SR students will have access to nine free counseling sessions. You can learn more about this 24/7/356 support by visiting [Timelycare/SRSU](https://www.timelycare.com/srsu). The SR Counseling and Accessibility Services office will continue to offer in-person counseling in Ferguson Hall room 112 (Alpine campus), and telehealth Zoom sessions for remote students and RGC students.*

Libraries. *The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires logging in with your Lobold and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or by phone (432-837-8123).*

No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare or ask a librarian by emailing srsulibrary@sulross.edu.

Mike Fernandez, SRSU Librarian, is based in Eagle Pass (Building D-129) to offer specialized library services to students, faculty, and staff. Utilize free services such as InterLibrary Loan (ILL) and ScanIt to get materials delivered to you at home or via email.