

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM  
MA 110, Finite Mathematics  
Campus COURSE SYLLABUS  
Fall 2021

## INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Information is in Canvas and BlazerNet  
Best way to contact: Canvas message or email  
Phone: Math department, 205.934.2154  
Office location: HHB202  
Office hours: TBA

## INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD

FACE TO FACE: This class will be taught in-person, on-campus on the days and hours listed in the Class Schedule. Face coverings are required indoors. Social distancing and other safety measures may be implemented. Go to [UAB United](#) for up to date information.

TEACHING TIME ZONE: Central time

TIME COMMITMENT: This course is worth 3 credit hours. Students should prepare to spend about 9-12 hours per week participating in course activities and working on assignments.

## COURSE CONTENT

Topics covered in the 3 semester hour course include: voting, probability, descriptive and inferential statistics, and consumer mathematics. This course satisfies the Core Curriculum requirement in mathematics. Quantitative Reasoning is a significant component of this course.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of MA110, a student

- is able to compute using arithmetic and elementary algebra in a variety of problem situations;
- is able to identify the problem and translate verbal descriptions into mathematical form;
- is able to evaluate the reasonableness of quantitative assertions;
- is able to interpret and construct graphs, tables, and schematic representations of mathematical relationships;
- understands elementary probability, and is able to draw conclusions based upon probability;
- is able to select and use appropriately quantitative evidence and inferences;
- is able to communicate results of mathematical investigations in a manner appropriate to the audience;
- is persistent in attempting to solve mathematical problems.

**This course is more about developing quantitative reasoning ability than acquiring any specific set of mathematical skills** (algebra, arithmetic, etc.). The above learning outcomes are realized in the course in a variety of contexts and a variety of learning opportunities (group work, discussion, notes, and computer-aided instruction).

NOTE: For Course Syllabi posted prior to the beginning of the term, the Course Instructor reserves the right to make changes prior to or during the term. The Course Instructor will notify students, via email or Canvas Announcement, when changes are made in the requirements and/or grading of the course.

## REQUIRED MATERIALS

### KNEWTON ALTA ACCESS

Students are REQUIRED to purchase access to Knewton alta:

- Purchase an access code from UAB Barnes & Noble, or
- Purchase access directly in Canvas.
  
- **How to register for Knewton alta:**
  - Log in to Canvas.
  - Work through the Modules in order.
  - When you click on HW1, it will take you to a pre-created account.
  - Click Purchase.
    - Select Plan or Enter Code (purchased from UAB Barnes & Noble)
    - *You may also select Courtesy Access (only good for 14 days).*
    - Note that once Courtesy Access expires, you will no longer have access to your HW and Quizzes until you purchase access.
  - **No extensions of deadlines are given for failure to purchase your REQUIRED access to Knewton.**

### TEXTBOOK

There is no textbook required, but instructional materials will be available in Knewton alta (paid access required) and in Canvas.

### CALCULATOR

You may use a handheld calculator or your phone's calculator during class, but when you take a TEST in the MLL you may only use the computer calculator (Windows 10).

### EXCEL

You may use excel in the MLL when you take a TEST. Free access to excel is available to you through Office 365.

### EQUIPMENT

You must have a computer capable of running Canvas and Knewton alta along with reliable, high-speed internet. Otherwise, you must work on assignments in the MLL or in a place where such equipment is available.

**Chrome** is the recommended browser.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The course content is set up as Modules in the UAB Learning Management System (LMS), CANVAS. Students must work through the Modules IN ORDER and COMPLETE ALL ITEMS. Students participate in discussions and solve problems during class and lab time. Problem solutions and explanations are submitted individually. During lab time, students also work on their computer assignments, take tests, and can get help from the instructor.

## COURSE GRADES

Student grades are based on TOTAL POINTS earned out of 1000 points according to the grading scale below.

**To access total points and overall grade:** Go to Canvas and click on **UAB Grade for MA 110**, or go to <https://secure.cas.uab.edu/ml/db/>. The instructor will upload Canvas scores to UAB Grade for MA 110 regularly after deadlines.

Grade Element	Points	Quantity	Total Points
Honor Code statement	2	1	2
Syllabus Quiz	10	1	10
Class	6	13	78
Lab	6	9	54
RQuizzes	2	16	32
Homework	10	16	160
Quizzes	4	16	64
Tests	150	4	600
<b>Total points</b>			<b>1000</b>
<i>Bonus</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>20</i>

Points Earned	Course Grade
880-1000	<b>A</b>
750-879	<b>B</b>
620-749	<b>C</b>
500-619	<b>D</b>
Below 500	<b>F</b>

### Reading Quizzes (RQuiz)

Students must prepare for class by reading the Lesson Notes and taking an RQuiz. RQuizzes have a 15 minute time limit, and two attempts are allowed. The highest attempt will count. Students may review after the second attempt. No late submissions allowed.

### Homework (HW)

One or more Homework assignments is due weekly. HW is adaptive, and guessing is highly discouraged because it will make your HW longer. Students work to earn 100% mastery on HW before the deadline, so they should work on it throughout the week. Instructional materials are available for each question. HW may be completed late within one week for mastery, but only 50% credit is awarded.

### Quizzes

One or more Quizzes are due weekly. Each HW has a Quiz that is due on the same date. Quizzes have a 15 minute time limit, and two attempts are allowed. The highest attempt will count. Students may review their results after the deadline. No late submissions allowed.

### Tests

Four tests are taken in the MLL (HNB202) on the scheduled dates during class time. Each Test is worth 150 points and has a 50 minute time limit. Students may review immediately after submission. The only allowed items during testing are the computer calculator (Windows 10), excel, the All Tests formula sheet, and instructor provided scratch paper. Students must bring their One Card for ID and building access, and their phone for DUO authentication to log on to the computer.

In the event UAB moves to remote or hybrid learning, students will use ProctorU services for remote testing. Students may test their equipment by going to <https://test-it-out.proctoru.com/>. A webcam is required.

**Note that the following cannot be used for testing with ProctorU:** Chromebooks, Tablets, Linux operating systems, Virtual machines, Windows 10 in S mode, Surface RT.

## COURSE POLICIES

### ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION POLICY

**Class/Lab meetings** --- Meetings are scheduled in two different locations: Tuesdays are in HHB202 (MLL, Math Learning Lab) and Thursdays are in the location published in the class schedule. Class and Lab attendance is REQUIRED, and students must be on time. Points will be awarded for participation and activities done in class and lab. NO food or drinks are allowed except for bottled water.

**Learning activities/assignments** --- Participation in all learning activities and completion of all assignments is REQUIRED, and points will be awarded. Students are expected to:

- Work on their assignments throughout the week and IN ADVANCE of deadlines.
- Have a back-up plan in case they have technical issues.

### EXTENDED ABSENCES

Attendance is fundamental to course objectives and to the integrity of this course. Courses in the Mathematics Department require a variety of activities that involve interaction with the instructor and/or interaction with other students. Excessive absences and missed assignments seriously jeopardize a student's ability to successfully complete the course. In the event of excessive absences, students should be prepared to officially withdraw from the course. Go to <https://www.uab.edu/students/one-stop/classes/add-drop-and-withdrawal-policy> to view the UAB Add/Drop and Withdrawal Policy.

More than two weeks of missed meetings is considered too much to be successful in the course.

### MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

In general there is NO makeup for missed assignments; however, HW may be completed late within one week for mastery, but only 50% credit will be awarded. Students are expected to work throughout the week and IN ADVANCE on their assignments instead of waiting until the deadline day.

Students with Covid-related reasons for missing a class meeting must go through UAB's Student Health Service's process for an excused absence due to isolation or quarantine. They must log into the UAB Student Health Patient Portal to begin this process. Students must present their written excuse provided by Student Health to their instructor to schedule a make-up session for attendance, OR the student may choose to use the extra points earned from the Bonus assignments to replace the missed attendance points. If a student misses class for any other reason, the student may earn back the missed points through the Bonus assignments.

If a student misses **one** Test, they may submit a request form to replace the missed grade by taking the Makeup Test. The student **must submit a request form to the math department office in UH4002 no later than 12pm on the last day of classes**. The student will be notified by email about the status of the request.

The Makeup Test is a 2 hour cumulative test that covers all material in the course, and it is taken at the scheduled final exam time in HHB202. **Only ONE missed test may be replaced.**

Students who must miss due to **official university competition or performance, jury duty, or required military orders** that are documented to interfere with working in the class must present *official documentation* IN ADVANCE, and MAKE ARRANGEMENTS to complete the missed work IN ADVANCE of the absence. **Before the end of the add/drop period**, students must provide their instructor a schedule of anticipated excused absences with a letter explaining the nature of the expected absences from the director of the unit or department sponsoring the activity. If a change in the schedule occurs, students are responsible for providing their instructors with advance written notification from the sponsoring unit or department.

Students should notify the instructor in writing or via email **before the end of the drop/add period** of their intention to be absent for religious observance. The instructor will work to provide reasonable opportunity to complete academic responsibilities as long as that does not interfere with the academic integrity of the course.

Two bonus assignments that are worth up to 10 points each are available to help students make up points for missed class or assignments.

## RESOURCES

### MATH HELP

**Your instructor** -- You should always **contact your instructor** if you are having difficulty with the material. They can offer suggestions and help.

### Canvas

- **Lesson Notes** for each HW are located in the Modules before each RQuiz and in the Resources Module. They show the learning objectives and provide instruction, which prepares you for the Reading Quiz.
- **All Tests formula sheet** --- This formula sheet may be opened in another window and used during testing. You are encouraged to use and become familiar with the formula sheet while completing your assignments.
- **Media Gallery** --- Instructional YouTube videos will be uploaded there.

### Knewton (through assignment link in Canvas)

- Each HW question has **More Instruction**, which includes text and videos.
- **Review Center** (available 14 days before each Test).

### Math Learning Lab (MLL)

The [Math Learning Lab \(MLL\)](#) in 202 Heritage Hall offers in person tutoring. Tutors WILL NOT help with graded assignments, solve all of your problems, or work with you for extended periods of time, but they WILL help guide you so that you can complete your work independently. No appointment is necessary. Tutoring is not available during holidays, breaks, or final exam week. The last available day for tutoring is the last day of classes.

### Vulcan Materials Academic Success Center (VMASC)

The [Vulcan Materials Academic Success Center \(VMASC\)](#) provides students with a host of free services and resources that include Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction.

**Other Student Resources** can be found by clicking on the Student Resources folder in the Canvas navigation.

## UAB Policies and Resources

### Add/Drop and Course Withdrawal

- **Drop/Add:** Deadlines for adding, dropping, or withdrawing from a course and for paying tuition are published in the [Academic Calendar](#) available online. Review the [Institutional Refund Policy](#) for information on refunds for dropped courses.
- **Withdrawal:** To avoid academic penalty, a student must withdraw from a course by the withdrawal deadline shown in the academic calendar and receive a grade of W (withdrawn). Failure to attend class does not constitute a formal drop or withdrawal.

### UAB United: Safe Entry to Campus

- Please go to the [UAB United website](#) for guidance and resources related to our safe entry to campus in Fall 2021, including information on:
  - [Testing](#)
  - [Academic resources](#) and in-depth information
  - [Student Affairs resources](#) to support all students (housing, dining, extracurricular activities, parking, etc.)
  - [Health and safety resources and recommendations](#) for on and off-campus
  - Information for [graduate students](#), [School of Medicine students](#), [Post-Docs](#) and [International Students](#)

All students should use the [Student COVID-19 Entry Checklist](#) to see what they have to do in order to enter the campus safely. **Non-compliance with the required items will result in students not being able to remain on campus or participate in any in-person classes, meetings, jobs, extracurricular activities, and events.**

### Misconduct

The University of Alabama at Birmingham expects all members of its academic community to function according to the highest ethical and professional standards. Students, faculty, and the administration of the institution must be involved to ensure this quality of academic conduct. Review the Academic Honor Code and Non-Academic Student Code of Conduct linked below.

- [Academic Honor Code](#)
- [Non-Academic Student Code of Conduct](#)

## **DSS Accessibility Statement**

**Accessible Learning:** UAB is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students. If you are a student with a disability that qualifies under Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and you require accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services for information on accommodations, registration and procedures. Requests for reasonable accommodations involve an interactive process and consist of a collaborative effort among the student, DSS, faculty and staff. If you are registered with Disability Support Services, please contact DSS to discuss accommodations that may be necessary in this course. If you have a disability but have not contacted Disability Support Services, please call **(205) 934-4205**, visit [their website](#), or go to their office located in Hill Student Center Suite 409.

**COVID-19 Adjustments for Students:** Attendance is required in MA 110. Students concerned about their attendance as a result of COVID-19 should register with Disability Support Services.

UAB Disability Support Services (DSS) has established a process for UAB students to request temporary adjustments based on the impact of COVID-19. The process is similar to the traditional DSS registration procedures for accommodations based on disability. However, these requests will be referred to as "COVID-19 Related Temporary Adjustments". On the DSS website, there is a section (next to the traditional DSS application process) titled "Request COVID-19 Temporary Adjustments" where students can read the process and click to complete an application.

Any questions regarding this process should be referred directly to [dss@uab.edu](mailto:dss@uab.edu). For qualifying students, DSS staff will create a Notification of Temporary Adjustment Letter (PDF format). Students will share this letter, as needed, with instructors to request adjustments.

## **Title IX Statement:**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham is committed to providing an environment that is free from sexual misconduct, which includes gender-based assault, harassment, exploitation, dating and domestic violence, stalking, as well as discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. If you have experienced any of the aforementioned conduct we encourage you to report the incident. UAB provides several avenues for reporting. For more information about Title IX, policy, reporting, protections, resources and supports, please visit [UAB Title IX webpage](#) for UAB's Title IX, UAB's Equal Opportunity, Anti-Harassment, Duty to Report, and Non-Retaliation policies.

## **Mandatory Masks and Social Distancing Requirements (subject to change):**

In accordance with CDC guidelines and for the health and wellbeing of all faculty, staff and students. Students, faculty and staff are REQUIRED to wear cloth face coverings or face masks at all times while inside buildings on the UAB campus. Instructors have the right to ask those who are not complying with these requirements to leave class in the interest of everyone's health and safety. In the event that a student refuses to comply with these requirements, the instructor has the right to cancel class.

Additionally, following other simple practices will promote good health in and out of the classroom, such as frequent and thorough hand washing, wiping down desks and seats with disinfectant wipes whenever possible, not sharing personal items such as pens and cell phones, and avoiding crowded areas and other enclosed spaces.

The UAB Blazer community views the adoption of these mandatory guidelines as a mark of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff. Please visit the [UAB United website](#) for further information.

Food may NOT be consumed during class times in classrooms, but bottled water is permissible.

## Additional Information

### **PREREQUISITES**

UAB MA 094 Minimum Grade of C, or UAB MA 098 Minimum Grade of C, or UAB MA 102 Minimum Grade of C, or ALEKS Math Placement Assessment score 30-45.

### **FACULTY EVALUATION**

At the end of each term, students are asked to complete a Course Evaluation Form (IDEA Survey). These evaluations are completely anonymous and are online for all students.

### **TURNITIN**

UAB reserves the right to use electronic means to detect and help prevent plagiarism. By enrolling at UAB, students agree to have course documents submitted to [www.Turnitin.com](http://www.Turnitin.com) or other means of electronic verification. All materials submitted to Turnitin.com will become source documents in Turnitin.com's restricted access database, solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism in such documents. Students may be required by instructors to individually submit course documents electronically to Turnitin.com.

### **LIBRARY SUPPORT**

The Libraries at UAB provide access to materials and services that support the academic programs. The following is a link to the main library (Mervyn Sterne Library) <http://www.mhsl.uab.edu/>.

### **IRB/RESEARCH STATEMENT**

Federal regulations and university policies require Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for research with human subjects. This applies whether the research is conducted by faculty or students. At the same time, many class projects are conducted for educational purposes and not as research, and will not require IRB approval. In this course, students work on group problems and may have to ask others for information to be used as data, but this will be done anonymously as part of an educational exercise; therefore, no IRB approval is needed. For more information about UAB OIRB, go to [irb@uab.edu](mailto:irb@uab.edu).