

Instructors,

On behalf of the Math Department of Salt Lake Community College, we thank you for your effort and dedication in teaching our students Math for the Health disciplines.

This year we have a new book and the order of material covered in the class has changed somewhat. Instead of covering the logarithm and pH values at the end of the semester, we have pushed that material to the beginning of the semester. We have added ratio and proportion topics and a little more arithmetic review. We've decided to group all this together at the beginning of the semester and then cover the dosages portion of the course.

As always, review the syllabus the first day of classes, especially the part about the grading scale and that the nursing department requires students to earn at least a C for entry into the program. In order to earn the C grade, students must pass the final with at least a 73% and earn at least 73% for the overall grade. In accordance to departmental standards, students must pass the final with at least a 60%.

As mathematics instructors, we want to ensure that students are capable of doing mathematics in the medical field. Every computation in the medical field is important to the well-being of a person. This person may be you, me, or our loved ones. The nursing department instructors mentioned that as far as any nurse helped administer any drug, he/she would share the legal liability and responsibility of the accuracy of drug dosage. At times, a nurse needs to recalculate the drug dosage to check for accuracy. During an emergency situation, a nurse may need to calculate the correct amount of morphine to administer to the patient in a short period of time.

In simple words, students need to make sure they are able to do the math. They will use it in the medical field. When grading exams, keep in mind the importance of being able to accurately solve the problem and keep partial credit to a minimum.

Individual instructors need to create their own tests to use throughout the semester and the department will provide the standardized final exam. If you would like sample exams, send an email to the course coordinator. All problems on the final are of equal value. The final for Math 1020 consists of two parts. Students are not allowed to use any calculators on part I. They will be allowed a scientific or graphing calculator on part II.

Observe that the provided schedules and calendars are **tentative** and typically may require some personal adjustment throughout the semester by each instructor.

Lastly, there is a Skill USA Medical Math competition each year. The students from the Math department have done very well in the past. Should you have students who do exceptionally well, please e-mail me their names, S numbers, and e-mail addresses at the beginning of December.

Again, thank you for teaching Math 1020 and have a good semester.

Joe Gallegos