Fundamentals of Mathematics

There are many reasons that a student might decide to take math. Here are a few:

- A deep love and appreciation for all things mathematical.

- It's a prerequisite for another course or program of study that interests them.

- It satisfies the math requirement for a degree or for transfer.

- They would like to develop their reasoning and logic skills to be more marketable in the work force.

The course emphasizes applying an understanding of math concepts to solving problems. The concepts are introduced through hands-on activities involving money, and we attempt to link an every day understanding of money to the ideas of decimals, fractions, and arithmetic.

Another emphasis is on forming study habits and an attitude of persistence that will give you confidence to attempt to solve math problems in your life and/or in subsequent math classes. Success breeds success, and I hope all of you will carry over successes in this class into your life after this class.

To give you an idea of what I expect you to come out of this class with, I will share three Student Learning Outcomes with you. They are:

At the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Perform the four basic arithmetic operations with whole numbers, decimals, fractions and signed numbers and apply their knowledge of these basic operations to set up, estimate solutions and solve related application problems that are part of their daily lives. In addition, they will be able to analyze the relevance of the solution. (Number Sense)

- Apply "Proportional Reasoning" to solve related problems including ratios, rates, proportion, percent and conversions of units and their applications

- Continue to use study skills and attitudes to enable them to succeed in subsequent math classes