

# Ma 199 ~ Introduction to Mathematical Studies

Fall Semester 2024 – 2025

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Instructor:	Dr. Melissa Gardenghi
Office:	Alumni 38
Office Hours:	Daily by appointment, see <a href="https://calendly.com/mgardeng/20min">https://calendly.com/mgardeng/20min</a>
Preferred Method of Communication:	MS Teams; personal correspondence by personal chat and general course/content related questions in the course general channel
Email:	<a href="mailto:mgardeng@bju.edu">mgardeng@bju.edu</a>
Course Website:	<a href="https://math.bju.edu/ma199/">https://math.bju.edu/ma199/</a>

## Course Description:

A weekly seminar course targeted at first-year students majoring in mathematics and actuarial science covering foundational techniques for learning both applied and theoretical mathematics with the goal of improving students' performance in courses taken during the first year.

## Textbook/Calculator/Software:

*Actuarial Exam Tactics: Learn More, Study Less* (first or second edition) by Roy Ju and Mike Jennings  
Textbook/class notes for whichever math course in which you are currently enrolled.

## Course Context/Goal:

This course is intended to support all of the Division of Mathematical Sciences Goals by helping the students develop the learning techniques necessary to effectively and efficiently learn mathematics throughout the remainder of their academic and professional careers.

## Course Requirements and Evaluation:

This is a 0 credit, pass/fail course. A pass will require a course grade of at least 70%. Each assignment can earn up to 5 points, and assignments that are not submitted will receive **-1.5 points**. The assignments will be graded based on the quality/thoughtfulness of your answers.

## Office Hour Appointments:

Office hour appointments can be made using the Calendly site, <https://calendly.com/mgardeng/20min> (appointments may be made up to two weeks in advance). If there are no available times at which you are able to meet, send Dr. Gardenghi a message including some days/times between 7:30am and 3pm when you are available.

## General Policies:

1. Compliance with student handbook policies is expected during class. The classroom is to be a professional environment. That means your attention is expected to be on course related material, and you are expected to positively contribute to the class. I reserve the right to ask you to leave class should your attention be elsewhere (sleeping, surfing the internet, working on assignments for another class, etc.).
2. BJU attendance policy is in effect (see <https://home.bju.edu/bju-policies/> for details).
3. Late assignments will receive at least a 10% penalty depending on the lateness.
4. University academic integrity policy is in effect (see <https://home.bju.edu/bju-policies/> for details).