

COURSE NUMBER:	2115
COURSE TITLE:	Practical Math for Consumers I
COURSE LENGTH:	Semester or Full Year
PREREQUISITE:	None
GRADE LEVEL:	9, 10, 11, 12

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Math I is designed to utilize the concepts of basic mathematics and provide additional guidance in applying those concepts toward making wise consumer decisions. This class presents a wide range of applications for daily consumer problems and real-life situations whose solutions require the correct use of the arithmetic of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents.

COURSE RATIONALE:

This course is intended for special needs students who have difficulty with and/or are unable to be successful in general education classes or Math II. This class provides instruction on basic math concepts that are necessary for success in everyday situations at school, at home, and in the workplace

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Instruction, practice, and applications are carefully sequenced to assure maximal success for each student. Each topic is presented to the entire class in mini-lesson format. A step-by-step approach is utilized to teach each lesson. Students are provided an opportunity to practice several sample problems which are monitored closely, and receive immediate individual assistance if necessary. Assignments are given daily.

ASSESSMENT:

Grades are determined from the results of daily work, class participation and tests. Students are given an opportunity to improve poor daily work scores with teacher approval.

CRITICAL OBJECTIVES:

1. Earning money: Figuring both gross and net earnings.
2. Buying food: Read and compare prices, compute change, unit prices, and use coupons.
3. Shopping for clothes: Compute sale prices and discounts, order from a catalog, charge purchases to an account, and use a layaway plan.
4. Managing a household: Paying rent, buying a home, borrowing money, reading utility meters, computing utility bills, and the costs of mortgage and homeowner's insurance.
5. Cars: Costs involved in buying, insuring, operating and maintaining cars.
6. Working with food: Counting calories, understanding recommended daily allowances, changing the yield of recipes, measurements, and timing food preparation.
7. Improving your home: Buying furniture and appliances, figure perimeter and area in order to fence a yard, wallpaper or paint a room, or to cover a floor, making additions, insulating walls, and improving your lawn.
8. Travel: Read maps and transportation schedules, compute the costs of fares, hotel stays, car rentals and parking expenses
9. Budgeting your money: Average income; preparing adjusting and balancing a budget.
10. Banking and investing: Compute simple and compound interest, balance a checkbook, keep track of checks, and read a stock report.
11. Paying taxes: State, federal and property taxes
12. Preparing for careers: Math skills used in six different career fields.
13. Consumer credit: Paying bills, loans, and credit cards