SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
SUMMER SESSION 2009
Education 313-3
D200
Numeracy and Society

Instructor: Kevin Wells   **Email:** kwells@sfu.ca

Dates and Times
June 22nd – Aug 4th 9:30am – 1:20pm   (Wednesdays and Fridays)

Location
EDB 8620B

Text: Paulos, J. A. (1988). *Innumeracy: Mathematical illiteracy and its consequences.* New York: Hill & Wang. (ISBN 9-780809-058402)

Readings: Additional readings will be provided by the instructor.

Course Requirements

1. Participation (0%)
    Participation is mandatory for this course. This will take three forms – attendance, group work, and involvement in class discussion. If class is missed for either a foreseeable or unforeseeable reason please see me and a makeup assignment will be arranged. A large part of every lesson will involve small group work and whole class discussion. Your involvement in both of these is expected. Learning happens through dialogues not monologues.

2. Homework Assignment (30%)
    Homework will be assigned at the end of most classes. Although it is expected that you complete each assignment to a minimal level of depth you will only be required to submit 3 assignments (worth 10% each). The assignments that are submitted are to be completed to a greater depth. Assignments should be submitted at the beginning of the next class – but can be submitted any time prior to the return of the relevant assignments. Once submitted they will be marked and

returned. Homework assignments will be drawn from the following:

- engagement with examples from the readings
- problem solving
- completion of a problem solving log (journal) in which they will detail the process by which they go about solving an assigned problem, analyze their personal problem solving experiences, and link (where applicable) their experience to the research literature
- creating a numeracy enhanced lesson in an individual subject area
- exploration and extension of a topic introduced in class

3. (In)Numeracy around us – portfolio of artefacts (30%)
   Throughout the course you will be asked to observe the world around you and identify instances of numeracy/innumeracy. These instances can occur in personal interaction, media, advertising, movies, etc. You must document at least 10 such instances, with a minimum of **5 substantially different** examples, and submit as a portfolio. Documentation can include personal anecdotes, photos, video clips, excerpts from magazines or newspapers, etc. However, all documents must include a commentary of what they demonstrate and why they were selected. The portfolio is due on **July 15th**.

4. Final Project (40%)
   To be announced and/or to be negotiated with the instructor. It is expected that the final project is completed in groups of 2 to 4 students. This is due on **July 29th**.

Grading Structure

Final Mark	Grade
96-100	A+
91-95	A
86-90	A-
81-85	B+
76-80	B
71-75	B-
66-79	C+
61-65	C
56-60	C-
46-55	D
0-45	F