

Dear Math 366 student,

Howdy! Welcome to Texas A&M University and to Math 366. I am excited to get to know you and work with you this semester. I love teaching mathematics and the 36x classes.

Please visit my personal web site:

<http://www.math.tamu.edu/~sherry.scarborough/>

On my web site you will find the Math 366 first day handout (please thoroughly read it before class on Wednesday) and chapter 9 notes (please skim the first section before class on Wednesday), both of which you need to bring to class this Wednesday. Some of you may already know you will need a compass (pointer and pencil lead kind, not the magnetic north kind!) for this class. While I will talk about this more in class on Wednesday, you will need a *quality* compass that uses screws and not friction to adjust. You will not need a compass the first week.

I sincerely look forward to meeting you, and I enthusiastically encourage you to visit me during my office hours. You do not need an appointment, nor do you need to email me that you are coming to my office hours. This is your open invitation to come! Notice if you are on my web site and you click on my office number (606 Blocker), a map appears showing you where Blocker is. After you get off the elevator on the 6th floor of Blocker, turn left and then right, and then my office is down the hall on the right. I have a pencil sharpener, stapler, and tape in my office that you may use!

Since I appreciate having an active class, I encourage you to ask questions, to catch my mistakes, to 'pause' me when I get too excited and go too fast, and to 'rewind' me when I need to go over a step or problem again. Ask me about the 'mute' button, zebras, ballroom dancing, and being a newlywed. I really appreciate those who ask questions in class, catch my mistakes, and volunteer answers (right or wrong!) in class.

By the second week of school (due Wednesday, January 25) you will need to have a "getting to know you" note card assignment done. You will need to have a picture of yourself that is about 2 inches by 3 inches that you will attach to a colored 4-inch by 6-inch index card that I will provide. On the index card, you are to put your name, Math 366-50x (your section number, which is either 502 or 505), spring 2006, phone number (local if possible), your TAMU email, your career plans, your hobbies and interests, something interesting or unusual about yourself, other things you would like me to know, your group's name (you will be assigned groups the second week of class), and on the back of the card every one of your group members' names, TAMU emails and phone numbers. This note card assignment grade is not one of the grades you can drop since it is very important to me to get to know you, however if you follow these directions, it should be an easy 100 assignment-grade.

Your assignments need to have your name (first, last), Math 366-50x (with YOUR section number in place of 50x), date due, title (Example: Sections 9.1 – 9.2 Homework), and your pages stapled together. Your assignments are usually due at the beginning of class.

Remember our goal is to prepare you for teaching by helping you understand the mathematics!

Welcome!

Dr. Sherry Scarborough, '80