Math 160: Contemporary Mathematics  
Spring 2003 — MWF 9:30 pm, CW 129.

WEB-PAGE:
http://www.math.ksu.edu/~pietro/M160/index.html

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Objectives: As you might have already noticed (i.e. if your name is Sherlock Holmes), the Textbook does not have an author. In fact it is the result of a group effort. I quote from the back of the book:

“COMAP – the Consortium for Mathematics and Its Applications – is a group of mathematicians and educators dedicated to improving the teaching of math by demonstrating to students how math is a crucial part of our lives and the world around us. They believe that students must cultivate and develop mathematical literacy if they are to succeed in a society that is increasingly process-driven and where problem-solving skills are becoming increasingly important. “

As a result this textbook is dense and filled with very interesting material. We will try to digest as much of it as possible, together in class, and by yourself at home. Class time will be dedicated to hands-on activities and working through the homework problems, I will lecture only when needed. I might give random quizzes throughout the semester. People are encouraged to post Homework solutions at the blackboard. In-class participation will count for a substantial percentage of the final grade.

Grading: There will be Tests after each completed Chapter and a Final. Homework assignments will be posted on the web each week and are due the following week. In-class Participation counts for 15 %, Homework counts for 15 %, and the Tests count for 40%. The Final will be 30%.

Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11:30 in CW 236 or by appointment. (If you can, when you plan to come to these Office Hours, please send me an e-mail or leave a message on my answering machine, thank you.)