

Part I (due Monday, August 31 at the beginning of class)

No reading this time, though since I meant to have you write down your syllabus questions and definitely didn't actually put that in your assignment last time, please write down your syllabus questions on a piece of paper that you can turn in on Monday.

Part II: Exercises (for presenting Monday, August 31)

Numbers 2 and 3 on the green Conditional Statements handout from Friday. The notation $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ means f is a function with domain (inputs) $\mathbb{R}$ (the real numbers) and codomain (where the outputs live) $\mathbb{R}$.

Part III: Problems (due Friday, September 4, at the beginning of class)

1. Choose a textbook from another class and another book that is not required reading for a class. From each, find an example of a sentence that is a statement and a sentence that is not a statement. Explain why each is or is not a statement, and for those that are statements, explain what the truth value of each is (you don't need to prove the statement here).
2. Write up a carefully explained solution to the eccentric woman in the hotel problem for both the case where she books 3 rooms, and the case where she books 4 rooms. Here's a full statement of the problem:

An eccentric woman checks into a hotel where she's booked 3 (and then also deal with 4 as another case) adjacent, adjoining rooms. When she checks in, she tells the desk clerk that if he needs her, she will always be in the room next door to the room she was in the night before. The clerk thinks nothing of it until an hour later when he realizes her credit card has been declined and he needs to go find her. He's super busy, though, and he only has time to knock on one door per day. How many days does he need to guarantee that he finds her? What strategy should he use for finding her? Fully explain your answer and make sure to include why your solution is optimal.

Colloquium Reminder

Math and Science Colloquium is on (most) Tuesdays from 11:30–12:20 in the South End Dining Hall. On Tuesday, September 1, Professor Eli Knapp and I will give a brief recap of our sabbaticals in Spring 2026 and answer questions about our sabbaticals and sabbaticals in general. You are welcome to come, and if you do come and write a paragraph about what you learned and what was surprising to you, you can earn an extra token.