Math 2200: Introduction to Discrete Mathematics
Spring 2014

Instructor: Sarah Cobb

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Office Hours: Monday 1:30–2:30 PM
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by appointment

Course:

Lecture: MWF 9:40 –10:30 AM, JTB 120
Midterm Exams: February 10 and March 24, in class
Final Exam: Thursday, April 24, 8:00–10:00 AM

Prerequisites: “C” or better in (MATH 1220 OR MATH 1250 OR MATH 1270 OR MATH 1311 OR
MATH 1320 OR MATH 2210) OR AP Calc BC score of 5.


Material to be Covered: The goal of this course is to become comfortable writing short proofs on a
variety of topics, which will include sets, functions, number theory, counting, discrete probability, and some
other topics.
Grading:

Your grade will be computed based on your homework, two midterm exams, and a final:

- Homework 25%
- Exam 1 20%
- Exam 2 20%
- Final Exam 35%

Grades will be assigned according to the university’s grading policy:

- A: Excellent performance; superior achievement
- B: Good performance; substantial achievement
- C: Standard performance and achievement
- D: Substandard performance; marginal achievement
- E: Unsatisfactory performance and achievement

Homework: All homework will be posted on the course website (see page 1 for address). Homework will be due most Fridays. Additional problems will be suggested for practice. The lowest homework score will be dropped; this is intended to account for emergencies or obligations that prevent you from handing it in. Except in the case of unavoidable prolonged absence, no other accommodation will be made. If you are unable to attend class to turn in homework, you may send a high-quality scan (one document; pdf format) to me by email. Other formats are not acceptable.

One of the goals of this class is to become comfortable communicating mathematics; your homework will therefore be graded on presentation as well as on correctness. Both handwritten and typed homework are acceptable. Please treat your homework for this class the same way that you would treat an essay for a humanities class. In particular:

- Title and date the homework at the top of the first page. Write your name clearly at the top of every page.
- Put the problems in order, indicating appropriately what you may have skipped.
- Staple your homework at the top left corner. No paperclips, creative corner folding/ripping, etc.
- Write clearly. Messy homework may not be graded. This is best handled by writing a “good copy” to hand in after you have figured out exactly what to do.

Exams: There will be two midterm exams and a final. The midterm exams will be February 10 and March 24. You are expected to take these exams in class at the scheduled time. No make-up exams will be allowed except as required for university-excused absences. Your final exam score may replace a mid-term missed due to personal or family emergencies.

The final is Thursday, April 24, 8:00–10:00 AM and cannot be taken early or late for anything but the most dire emergencies.
Miscellaneous Policies

Calculators: You will not need a calculator for this course. They will not be allowed on exams.

Working Together: Collaborating on homework is strongly encouraged. It is important, however, that solutions be written up independently. It is very easy to think you understand when someone else explains something; writing your own solutions will prevent this.

Exams, of course, must be entirely your own work.

Computers: I do not allow the use of computers in the classroom. Even with the best of intentions, it is far too easy to shift from taking notes to playing Solitaire. Not bringing your computer spares you the temptation. If this policy is a serious problem for you, please talk to me.

Classroom Behavior: Please be respectful in the classroom. Don’t sleep, talk to each other, do homework, eat noisy food, text your friends, use a computer, or anything else that might distract your fellow students. Anyone disrupting class will be asked to leave.

Cheating: Cheating demonstrates a lack of respect for yourself, your fellow students, your instructor, the university, and the whole academic enterprise. If you cheat on an exam, you will receive no credit for that exam. Repeated incidents may be cause for more serious action, such as failing the course or expulsion from the university.

Changes: Parts of this syllabus may alter in the course of the semester. Whenever possible, I will both announce this in class and send an email. You are responsible for knowing everything I email to your university mailing address as well as everything I say in class. If it is unavoidable that you miss class, make sure you talk to someone who was there.

Office hours: Working with individual students is the best part of teaching. I hope that you will come to my office hours. I have scheduled office hours each week, listed above. If your schedule conflicts with these, send me an email and we can set up another time.

Communicating with me: The best way to reach me is by email (my address is on page 1). I will generally respond to email within 24 to 48 hours. I will also be in my office during my office hours; you should feel free to drop by. Any communication not in writing or by email should be considered unofficial.

ADA statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, cognitive, systemic learning, and psychiatric disabilities. Students need to contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to discuss any such accommodations that they may require for this course.