

MATH112: DISCRETE MATHEMATICS FOR BSIT – FALL 2014

Instructor: Dr. Harbir Lamba
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Office: Exploratory Hall, Room 4459
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 2.00–3.00 or by appointment.
Webpage: <http://math.gmu.edu/~harbir/m112/> . Note we will not be using BlackBoard.

Textbook: Discrete Mathematics for BSIT, Prentice Hall Custom Edition 2006.
You can buy a new or used print version or an ebook version is available at
http://www.pearsoncustom.com/va/gmu_math112 .

Homework questions will be set after each section is completed. These will not be collected or graded but you are **STRONGLY** advised to attempt them and write out your solutions as if they would be. You are encouraged to discuss these problems amongst yourselves and to make use of the office hours. Either myself or the TA will go through the majority of the homework questions in the next class and/or post them on the web, but you will not benefit from this unless you have attempted them properly beforehand. Note that the above list of homework questions is the **ABSOLUTE MINIMUM** you should be doing each week. All of the odd-numbered questions in the book have solutions in the back and you should attempt as many of those as you feel you need to.

The course will be evaluated with 4 (1 hour long) in-class tests on Tuesday September 16th, Tuesday October 7th, Tuesday November 4th and Tuesday November 25th. Your 3 best results (relative to the class average for that test) will each contribute 20% towards the evaluation and the remaining 40% will come from a (cumulative) final exam on Thursday December 11th. I shall explain the grading system in more detail in the first lecture¹. If you miss more than one of the in-class exams then you will need to provide very good (and fully-documented) reasons for missing **EACH** of them. There will be **NO** make-up tests, alternative test dates, or ‘extra-credit’ assignments. You are expected to abide by the University Honor Code and all suspected violations will be reported to the Honor Committee. No outside materials will be allowed during any of the examinations.

Additional Remarks:

- 1) Feel free to ask questions in class. It makes things more interesting for everyone, myself included.
- 2) In addition to my office hours there is help available for this course at the Math Tutoring Centre. Also, the TA has office hours — see the webpage for details.
- 3) If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703 993 2474. All academic accommodations *must* be arranged through that office.
- 4) It is **YOUR** responsibility to regularly check the course webpage and your official university email address for announcements.
- 5) Please check the course webpage or this syllabus for the answers to any questions you may have before emailing me.
- 6) Finally **turn off and PUT AWAY any and ALL electronic devices** including phones, calculators, tablets and laptops. If I see you even looking at your phone, let alone texting, then you will leave the classroom and miss the rest of the lecture. I don’t like having to do this but it is for the benefit of everyone’s concentration, not least mine.

¹NOTE: I DO NOT GRADE ON A CURVE. The formula I use to rank you involves the class average but the grade boundaries are determined by absolute, not relative, performance! If you all deserve an A grade then you will all get an A grade. If you all deserve to fail then you will all fail. I only take the class average into account to cancel out any differences in the difficulty of the tests.