

**George Mason University**  
**Math 110-002**  
**Course Syllabus**

Term            Fall 2018  
Title            Probability  
Course          Math 110-002-74480  
Location        Nguyen 1109  
Time            Mom and Wed noon - 1:15  
Professor:      Douglas Eckley  
                  [deckley2@gmu.edu](mailto:deckley2@gmu.edu)  
                  mobile #        571 277 7927 (use sparingly)  
                  office #        703 993 1682  
                  office hours    Tue noon - 4pm and Wed 1:30 - 7pm

**Description**

This course meets the quantitative reasoning requirement of the Mason Core. As such, the professor is required to introduce the students to a computer-based math capability. In my class, that means Excel spreadsheets.

We will cover the following topics:

- Introduction to Excel
- Graphs and Slideshows
- Matrices
- Linear Equations
- Combinations and Permutations
- Probability
- Mathematics of Loans (Car, Home)
- Mathematics of Retirement Saving
- Data Fitting - Interpolation and Errors
- Encryption

The book is [Finite Mathematics and Its Applications](#), Eleventh Edition, by Goldstein, Schneider and Siegel, Pearson 2014. The lectures are done my way (not from the book). The book serves as a useful source of practice problems and as a back-up resource. The idea is that you have two chances to learn the material: from lecture and from book.

We will also use a quasi-book: Data Fitting Notes. I will make this quasi-book available on Blackboard.

## Procedures

If at all possible, but it is not required, bring your pc to class. That way you can be hands-on with Excel during class, which is very conducive to gaining expertise.

The class will consist mostly of a series of lectures.

Grading will be divided as follows:

Progress tests (5)	75
Final exam	25

## Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>
27-Aug-18	Introduction to Excel
29-Aug-18	Introduction to Excel
3-Sep-18	Labor Day Break
5-Sep-18	Graphs and Slideshows
10-Sep-18	Review
12-Sep-18	Progress Test 1
17-Sep-18	Matrices
19-Sep-18	Matrices
24-Sep-18	No Class; Prof Traveling
26-Sep-18	Linear Equations
1-Oct-18	Review
3-Oct-18	Progress Test 2
9-Oct-18	Combinations and Permutations
10-Oct-18	Combinations and Permutations
15-Oct-18	Probability
17-Oct-18	Probability
22-Oct-18	Review
24-Oct-18	Progress Test 3
29-Oct-18	Mathematics of Loans (Car, Home)
31-Oct-18	Mathematics of Loans (Car, Home)
5-Nov-18	Mathematics of Retirement Saving
7-Nov-18	Mathematics of Retirement Saving
12-Nov-18	Review
14-Nov-18	Progress Test 4
19-Nov-18	Data Fitting - Interpolation and Errors
21-Nov-18	Thanksgiving Break
26-Nov-18	Data Fitting / Encryption
28-Nov-18	Data Fitting / Encryption
3-Dec-18	Review

5-Dec-18	Progress Test 5
10-Dec-18	Reading
12-Dec-18	Final Exam