

MATH 151- 002 Finite Mathematics SPRING 2008

Time: 12:45-2 PM, Tuesdays and Fridays

Location: McKinley 210

Instructor: Jaime Miller

Email: jaime.miller@american.edu

Office: Gray 208

Phone: 202-885-3685

Office Hours: Tuesdays 10-11am, 2:15-3:15pm, Wednesdays 10-11am, 12:30-2:30 pm

Fridays 10-11 am; or by appointment

Overview of Topics

In this course we will learn about the basic concepts of algebra (Chapters 1-4), the mathematics of finance (Chapter 5), and probability and sets (Chapters 8 and 9) and will look at how vital they are to the study of business and the sciences.

Materials

-Required: Text-*Mathematics with Applications-Finite Version, 9th edition* by Lial and Hungerford

-Recommended: Graphing Calculator-Preferably the TI-83

The Mathematics and Statistics Department has a limited number of calculators available to loan. To inquire about this please visit the office in Gray 103 or call 202-885-3120.

Course Components

Class/ Attendance This class will be a blend of lecture and class discussion. Most classes I will have at least one question/problem that we will focus on for discussion. I want you all to be involved during class and please don't hesitate to ask questions whenever something is unclear to you.

You are expected to attend all class meetings, as I believe that attending class regularly contributes greatly to your performance in the course. It is understandable that you may have to miss class on the rare occasion. You are responsible for any assignments or papers given out during any missed class.

Those of you who attend class regularly will have your final grade bumped up if your final grade is "border-line."

Exercises For each section covered I will assign exercises from the text. **These exercises will not be collected but doing them will be essential to your success in this course.**

Assignments During the semester I will assign and collect 7 formal assignments. These will be a mix of problems from the text as well as other thought provoking questions related to the topics that we are studying. You will always have at least one week to complete these assignments and may receive assistance from other students in the class and myself as long as you acknowledge it. **I WILL ACCEPT ONLY ONE LATE ASSIGNMENT DURING THE SEMESTER AND IT MUST BE SUBMITTED DURING THE NEXT CLASS MEETING UNLESS YOU HAVE MADE AN ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENT WITH ME.**

Exams We will have four exams including the final exam. Each exam will be in- class and the questions will be very similar to those from the exercises. You will receive a review sheet for each exam and we will review the class before each exam. The final exam will be cumulative. **No make-up exams will be given unless you have an extremely compelling excuse such as observance of a religious holiday (in which case you need to let me know in advance) or a medical emergency (in which case you need a signed doctor's note).**

Grading

Your final grade will be determined by **Attendance** (10 %), **Assignments** (25%), **Exams 1,2, and 3** (15% each), and the **Final Exam** (20 %). I use the following grading scale:

A 92.95%+, **A-** 89.95-92.94%, **B+** 86.95-89.94%, **B** 82.95-86.94%, **B-** 79.95-82.94%, **C+** 76.95%-79.94%, **C** 72.95-76.94%, **C-** 69.95%-72.94%, **D** 59.95-69.94%, **F** 0-59.94%

Important Dates

January 28	Last day to drop without a "W"
February 8	Special Class Time: 2-2:50 PM
February 12	Exam 1
February 18	Early Warnings
March 7	Last day to drop
March 11, 14	Spring break, no class
March 21	Exam 2
April 22	Exam 3
April 25	Last day of class
May 2	Final Exam, 11:20 AM-1:50 PM*

*Everyone must take the final exam during this final exam period. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Assistance Before receiving any assistance please make sure that you have read the notes and text and that you have made a fair attempt at the problem. You have three excellent resources to use for assistance outside of class:

1. Always feel welcome to come visit me during my office hours.
2. Use your peers! Feel free to work with your classmates on exercises and assignments. Just make sure that you write down the solutions in your own words.
3. The Mathematics and Statistics Tutoring Lab is a free service. No appointment is necessary. The lab will open on January 22 and will remain open until finals. It is located in Gray 110 and is open Sun 3-8, M-Th 11-8, and F 11-3. **Remember that the tutors are there to assist you, not to do your work for you.**

A Few Additional Notes

- Please let me know during the first week of classes if you have any special needs that require accommodations.
- A grade of incomplete will only be given under extreme circumstances and will not be granted to any student who is failing.
- Regardless of your previous feelings about math try to have a positive attitude. It will contribute greatly to your success in the course!