MATH 325: Elementary Combinatorics

Course Syllabus, Fall 2012

MWF 11:10am-12:00pm, Room: Todd 411

Instructor: Dr. Danhong(Dawn) Zhang

Phone: 509-335-0507(W) (this is a shared phone so email is preferred)

Email: danzhang@wsu.edu

Office: Neill 319

Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays @ 10:30am-3:00pm or by appointment.

Course Website: http://www.math.wsu.edu/faculty/dzhang

Check your grade: http://my.math.wsu.edu/ (when you log in, click ‘info’ tab).

Teaching Assistant: TBA

Prerequisite: math 220 with a C or better


Course objectives: This course is designed to help students become skillful in combinatorial reasoning and its applications. Also students may develop proficiencies in problem solving, mathematical modeling, written and oral communication

Course Coverage:

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5-8, and 14 if time allows. 1: What is Combinatorics?, 2: The Pigenhole Principle, 3: Permutations and Combinations, 5: The Binomial Coefficients, 6: The Inclusion-Exclusion Principle and Applications, 7: Recurrence Relations & Generating Functions, 8: Special Counting Sequences, 14: Polya Counting

Form of instruction: lecture.

Final exam: There will be a comprehensive final exam on Wed, 12/12, 3:10 to 5:10pm. Room will be announced during dead week. Note that university policy does not allow us to give early finals. Please make your travel plans accordingly.
Grading Policy

Homework-------------------------------100pts approximately, 20%

2 exams @ 100pts each -------------- 200pts, 40%

Final exam-------------------------------200pts, 40%

Total-------------------------------500pts, 100%

Final grades: A: 93 – 100%, A-: 90 – 92.9%

B+: 87 – 89.9%, B: 83 – 86.9%, B-: 80 – 82.9%

C+: 77 – 79.9%, C: 73 – 76.9%, C-: 70 – 72.9%

D+: 67 – 69.9%, D: 60 – 66.9%, F: 0 – 59.9%.

Conduct

Under the terms of enrollment, students acknowledge the University’s authority to take disciplinary action for conduct on or off university property that is detrimental to the university’s core values. Inappropriate conducts include but not limited to: talking randomly in class, leaving early without permission, arriving very late, unauthorized use of laptop or other electronic devices, etc. They disturb the class. Please respect other students! Each time I find improper behavior, that student may have 1% deduction of final grade.

Class Attendance

Attendance is expected and required. If you do find that you must miss class, there are two ways to arrange excused absences:

1. If you have an emergency situation resulting in an extended absence (longer illness, family emergency), contact the office of student affairs (335-4531) immediately. They will issue letters to all of your instructors excusing you from the necessary class days and assignments.

2. Appropriate letters documenting excused university absences (such as participation in athletic events) will be accepted if arranged before missing class.

Homework

Homework will be assigned in each class and collected weekly. Late assignments will not be accepted, but the lowest score will be dropped.

Exams
There will be 2 midterm exams plus a final exam. Make-up or early exams are given only for extremely rare cases. If you know you are going to miss an exam, please notify me as soon as possible so I can determine if a make-up or early exam is applicable. Calculators/notes/books are not allowed on exams. All exams are closed book.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones, pagers, blackberries, iPods, iPads, mp3 players, CD players, and similar devices may not be used during class. Laptop computers are not allowed on exams, but may be used during lectures for the express purpose of taking notes. Any student who is caught using a laptop during lectures for any other reason (i.e. e-mails, IM, myspace, facebook, internet, and all other non-math class related work - including work for other classes) will be asked to shut their computer down and not be allowed to use it in class again. Also, please no text messaging during class.

Study Assistance

There are many resources on campus to assist you:

a. Free tutoring sessions are held in the Stephenson Complex “Downunder”. Open schedules will be announced soon.
b. My office hours.
c. CACD(Center for Advising and Career Development) has a list of private tutors. Please call at 509-335-6000 or visit 180 Lighty Student Services Building.
d. The Math Department also has a list of private tutors. Please call math main office at 509-335-3926.
e. Free eTutoring: /www.etutoring.org/

Academic Integrity: Please note that we take extremely seriously the university’s policy on the need for academic honesty in all your work. Any form of dishonesty in an assignment will lead to a zero on an assignment and we reserve the right to give a grade of F for the course as well. If needed, Student Conduct will be contacted. Visit the following site for more information regarding what constitutes academic dishonesty and the WSU procedures for handling cases of academic dishonesty. http://www.conduct.wsu.edu/default.asp?PageID=343

WSU Safety Measures: Washington State University is committed to maintaining a safe environment for its faculty, staff, and students. Please visit http://safetyplan.wsu.edu and http://oem.wsu.edu/emergencies to access the Campus Safety Plan and emergency information.

Students with Disabilities: Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please either visit or call the Access Center (Washington Building 217; 509-335-3417) to schedule an appointment with an Access Advisor. All accommodations MUST be approved through the Access Center.