Math 130 (Finite Math)
Fall 2010

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Office hours: M-F 9:00- 10:00
Or by appointment

Course Overview: At CWU, Finite math is one of the courses that can be selected to satisfy the reasoning requirement for graduation. It is real-world applicable and serves to prepare students for research and statistical courses at a later date.

It has been said that Finite math is for the information age. Finite math courses originated in the 1950's with the common orientation of studying finite, or discrete (between 0 & 1) numbers, problems as opposed to the continuous problems investigated in Calculus. Finite Math courses typically include logic, set theory, counting principles, statistics and decision making

Textbook:

Finite Mathematics, introductory probability & statistics (Owen & Cutlip)

Topics covered:

1. Counting and probabilities
    a. Sorting and counting of data, samples, or populations
    b. Defining sample spaces and events
    c. Set notation, the additive law, and the complement
    d. Conditional probability
    e. Bayes' theorem
    f. Using the complement (reliability of systems).
2. Variables and probability distributions
    a. Describing random variables
    b. Measuring dispersion
    c. Binomial distribution
    d. Normal distribution
3. Introduction to Statistics
    a. Graphical methods
    b. Measures of Central Tendency
    c. Measures of dispersion
    d. Confidence intervals
4. Using statistical tables
    a. Binomial probability distributions
    b. Standard normal distribution table

Student outcome will include comprehension of topics as demonstrated by completion of assigned homework and projects. Application of topics related to probability and statistics demonstrated by successful completion of projects.

Evaluation and Assessment: Quiz, test, and project grades will predominantly be used to evaluate student learning and progress. Students may use a 3x5 card on all tests and may use up to 3 cards on the final. Homework is assigned, but not turned in for a grade and worksheets are frequently completed in class. Students desiring to "retake" a test must show completed homework for the chapter (showing appropriate work, not just answers) and can improve by up to 2 letter grades or score up to an 89.

Dropping lowest test score: A student may have their lowest test score dropped by completing the required homework for the course. Again, students must show appropriate work on the problems, not just the answers.

CWU posted grade scale will be used.

Necessities

1. Participation- students are expected to be in class and participate in class activities and to respond to questions from the instructor. A reminder is always in order that math is not a "spectator sport".
2. Scientific calculator (TI- 83 is recommended)
3. Regular communication through office "hours", email, or phone call.
4. Provide course feedback through formal and informal surveys (formal surveys will be confidential).

Calendar & Assignments: Are found under the "Syllabus" tab on Blackboard

Blackboard:

Course materials will be posted on Blackboard and all resources and links will also be available on Blackboard. To login to Blackboard, go to https://courses.cwu.edu/ and enter your CWU username and password. Once there, click on this course (Math 130 Finite Math). Under "Course Documents" on the left side of the page, you will find links to Resources.

NOTE: each quarter students are invited to have dinner with my family. The dates for this quarter are October 6 (spaghetti) or October 20 (potato bar and salad). Students from my 3 classes will be invited to attend one of the two evenings (there will be students from my other classes).