

Math 130 (Finite Math)

Spring 2013

Office: Black 225-35

Office hours: T-Th 8-10, 11

Or by appointment

Steve Stein, PhD

Office phone 509-963-2296

Cell phone 509-929-2019

steinst@cwu.edu

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

CWU posted grade scale will be used

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. Homework is assigned and submitted weekly for a grade (completion and effort) and worksheets are frequently completed as part of the “lecture” (not submitted or graded).

The final is difficult and a number of students drop their grade by one letter grade.

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. PLEASE, DO NOT ask me for an exception AFTER THE FACT. I will work to accommodate all needs and help you to be successful, but it is unprofessional to request an exception after something is due.
3. My cell phone number is provided for you when you have need to speak with me. If you text, please provide your name and the class.
4. Scientific calculator (TI- 83 is recommended)
5. Regular communication through office “hours”, email, or phone call.
6. 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.

I will do my best to meet the needs of all students.

NOTE: each quarter students are invited to have dinner with my family. If you live in or near Ellensburg, then I hope you will make it to dinner. More later.