Math 130: Finite Math
Meeting Daily 10:00 – 10:50 in Bouillon 109

Instructor: Tim Brown   Office: Bouillon 117
Phone: 509-963-1720   Office Hours: 2-3 PM Daily   *(and by appt.)*
Email: brownti@cwu.edu *-- preferred*   Course info on Canvass website, through mycwu.

Description: Finite math is a 5-credit introductory course on probability and statistics. It is designed to prepare you for further courses in statistics, generally offered in contexts specific to your field or major. It also satisfies the General Education "Basic Skills (D)" requirement. The topics we cover will include the language of sets, counting procedures, probability, decision-making, and introductory statistics. You will be expected to apply skills and ideas to problem-solving scenarios in addition to simply learning procedures.

Time: The general rule of thumb for college is 2 hours outside of class for each hour in class. Expect to spend 10 hours per week besides class time to be successful (some may need more, some less….) You choose to succeed or not largely by how you choose to spend time and energy. Plan ahead and make sure you have time available.

Expectations:
        Uni-tasking! The (lost) art of doing one thing at a time, focusing, and doing it well. Turn off your phones, ipods, ipads, cortical implants, etc. during class… She will still love you in 50 minutes. The birds will still be angry. Some people will still call him Maurice. The fruit will still need to be ninja-ed. If you are here, be truly here.
        Attendance, participation, homework. No one who consistently shows up, does their work, and gets help as needed fails my classes. This isn't a separate policy, it just works out that way. Be here, pay attention, ask questions, do your work, and you will succeed. If you must be gone, you are responsible to access my canvass website for information, and keep up with the work.
        Helpful hint: Read the book. Really. This one is actually readable. It will give you additional examples and a slightly different approach to explaining the concepts from what you get in class. Seeing the same idea two different ways can be a big help. Also, some homework will refer back to text examples.
        Respect yourself: Believe your education is important enough to put forth the effort. Your future is worth investing in.
        Respect others (real or simulated respect) – me, classmates, the school, etc. Honesty is an absolutely essential part of that.

Materials:
   o   A scientific calculator is required. Smart phone apps will not do, as you can't use a phone during quizzes and tests (hopefully for obvious reasons). It needs to have probability features like permutations and combinations. I can generally help with TI-83 or TI-84 models.
   o   Colored pencils are recommended, but not required. Especially useful if you are a "visual learner."
   o   Text: Finite Mathematics: Introductory Probability and Statistics by Owen and Cutlip.

Grading:
   o   20%   Final Exam   90% - 100% = A
   o   40%   Chapter Tests   80% - 90%   = B
   o   20%   Quizzes   70% - 80% = C
   o   10%   "Perfect Practices"   60% - 70%   = D
   o   10%   Homework Completion   *+ and – grades apply if your score is within 2%.*

Homework is assigned almost every day, and needs to be done that day. Attendance and participation are essential, and practicing the skills and concepts promptly is the only way to be confident of success. You will turn in a stapled packet (or notebook) of your homework for each unit on the day of the unit test. These need to have assignment and problems in order, clearly labeled, with work shown in the manner prescribed in class to get full credit.

Perfect Practices are short tasks, usually one to three questions, done during the last 10 minutes (+/-) of class. They must be completely perfect to get credit, or you keep working until they are, and then they get stamped. This ensures you are on the right track before you do the homework practice, and also provides an example you have worked out correctly for reference. The last "extra chance" for getting these stamped is the day before the unit test; perfect practices will be turned in as a packet on the day of the test.

Quizzes will be short – usually about 10-20 minutes each – and will sometimes be unannounced. They will cover the homework concepts from the previous few days. You may retake up to 4 quizzes this quarter. You must complete the relevant homework and perfect practice to be eligible for a retake, and you must come see me outside of class – during office hours or by appointment. Deadline for retakes is the day before the next unit test. If you are absent the day a quiz is given, the retake is your only chance at the quiz.

Unit tests and the final exam must be taken on the days assigned; you will know at least a week ahead. Other times will be arranged only for the direst of circumstances (family funeral is valid if it is your own ☺). You will be allowed the option of either a handwritten note card, or the formula sheet I provide, along with some useful tables. My formula sheet will be the same as the one I give you early in the quarter.

Projects: if assigned, will be relatively small and be scored as quizzes.

Late work: No such thing. I give extra opportunities on some tasks, but when they are due, they are due.

Cheating = Failure. You are always allowed help on homework, and usually on perfect practices. Tests, quizzes, and the final are individual efforts. You will receive a zero with no chance for make up if you copy, help, hint, check, etc. with a classmate.

Extra Help: Do not hesitate to come see me at my office. My office hours are listed on the front of this page, and I'm available other times by arrangement. We have math education students who are available for individual or small group tutoring – see me. Also, the University Math Center, located in ARC on the first floor of Brooks library has very generous drop in tutoring hours, and there are "supplemental instruction:" course-specific regular study sessions available with a tutor at times TBA. Kahn academy (www.khanacademy.org) has an organized collection of over 2,400 tutorial videos, with special emphasis on math.

Accommodations: If you have a disability and require accommodations for this course please speak with me privately as soon as possible so that your needs may be appropriately met. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with Disability Services (DS). DS is located in Bouillon 140. Call (509) 963-2149 or email cds@cwu.edu for more information.

THE END: Your final exam will be held on Tuesday, June 10 from 8–10 AM. There will be regular quizzes, daily work and review assignments due during the last week of class (June 2 - 6)