

Hertz 122, 8 AM daily

INSTRUCTOR: Dale Width, Bouillon 121

OFFICE HOUR: 9 AM daily or by appointment

PHONE: 963-2400

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Text: Finite Mathematics, Owen and Cutlip

Schedule: (subject to change!)

Chapter 6	Introduction to Counting & Probability	First two weeks
Chapter 7	Counting and Tree Diagrams	Weeks 3 and 4
Chapter 8	Random Variables	Weeks 5-7
Chapter 9	Statistics	Weeks 8 and 9
Chapter 10	Games; also final review	Last two weeks

Final Exam Wednesday, March 19 at 8 AM. No exceptions! Check Safari for changes. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Student Learning Objectives: The student who successfully completes this course will be prepared for beginning statistics courses. An ability to work with and understand methods and concepts from probability and statistics will be gained. The student will acquire fluency in working with numerical and mathematical concepts and will be able to apply them to real life situations.

This syllabus sets out my expectations for the classwork which will determine your grade. It is most important that you read and understand it. Ask questions if you need to. Keep it for reference. If you have special needs or requirements to facilitate your progress, or outside activities which will interfere with class, you need to make arrangements with me as soon as possible.

This course studies probability and beginning statistics. Finite math satisfies the reasoning general ed requirement for graduation. It presents material which has applications in daily life. Math is all around us, and it is essential that we gain an understanding of it.

Mathematics is like a foreign language. The only way to gain the skills required for success is through practice. It requires a LOT of time. If you have other commitments which will demand much of your time, you may have problems successfully completing this course. Homework is strictly YOUR responsibility. You are here because you choose to be. Lack of effort will result in a waste of YOUR time and money!

We will move FAST. The primary resource is class. BE THERE! It will be your responsibility to catch up if you aren't. Attendance is not required, but quizzes will be given at random for the benefit of those of us who regularly show up. We will add material to that found in the textbook so you need to be here!

Other resources are used. The textbook is most important. You will be working lots of problems. Another is your classmates. Group studying is recommended; study groups will be organized early on. ASK QUESTIONS! If you do your homework, you will be able to.

Take notes! The material presented in class is important. Even if you draw pictures, write things down!

Reading assignments will be given most days. Quizzes at the beginning of class can be expected.

A calculator, with memory and exponential functions, is REQUIRED! No exceptions! The TI-83 graphing calculator is strongly recommended.

Some algebra is required for this course. Math 100B or equivalent is a prerequisite. I will assign some algebra problems the first day. If they prove to be intimidating, consider more preparation for this course.

Incompletes will NOT be given! The last day for uncontested withdrawal is February 14. It will be difficult to improve your grade after this date, and withdrawal becomes problematic. Plan now so that your grade does not threaten your financial aid.

If you have any requests to allow for special needs, let me know as soon as possible.

There will be about eight half-hour tests worth 10 points each; about 10 two-point quizzes, and a comprehensive final worth 30 points. The lowest 10-point test will be dropped; no other makeups will be allowed except for compelling reasons and advance clearance. Grades are based on percentages of the total and are earned as follows: **A = 95 and above; A- = 92 – 94; B+ = 88 – 91; B = 83 – 87; B- = 80 – 82; C+ = 77 – 79; C = 73 – 76; C- = 70 – 72; D = 60 – 69.** This scale may be adjusted slightly.

I often hear comments from students such as 'I am just naturally bad at math' or 'Math has always been very difficult for me'. These negative attitudes came about because of unhappy past experiences. This class will give you the opportunity to change that. Any one of you can succeed at math. We will present a positive learning environment. If you give a sincere effort in this class, keep a positive attitude, and attend regularly, success is guaranteed.

If you are sick, or have flu symptoms, use common sense. Stay home. However, you must stay in touch. Email me if you will miss class. You will also be responsible for meeting with me to arrange for any missed material, and for making up assignments.

An important requirement for this class is mutual respect. I respect your presence in this class; you, in return must respect our presence and the learning process taking place in our classroom. Rude behavior will not be tolerated. Your attention and effort is **mandatory** to make this class a success.

Algebra assessment quiz for Finite Math.

1. $0.35 + 0.15 + C = 1$. $C = ?$

2. 2% times 5% = ?

3. 0.6 times $X = 0.4$. $X = ?$

4. Solve for $P[A]$: $P[A] / P[B] = P[C]$

5. $(0.2)^4 = ?$

6. $a + b + c + d = 1$. $a = b = c$ and $d = 2c$. $a = ?$

7. Evaluate $8 / \sqrt{n}$ for $n = 4$.