CISC 2210 – Introduction to Discrete Structures

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Fall 2023, Tuesdays and Thursdays

TR11: 11:00am–12:15pm
TR2: 2:15pm–3:30pm

http://www.sci.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~amotz/discretemath.html

Classes:

• We meet twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays
  – TR11: 11:00am–12:15pm in room 432 IA
  – TR2: 2:15pm–3:30pm in room 329 IA

• If the in-person classes are canceled, we meet via Zoom on the same days and times.

• In each 75-minute class, a slide-based lecture coupled with Internet videos will be presented. The slides will be posted on the course website.

• For most of the classes, there will be a Zoom session in parallel to the in-person class, however, the Zoom sessions will not be recorded and the focus will be on the students who attend the in-person classes. If the in-person classes are canceled, we meet via Zoom on the same days and times.

Attendance:

• Except for the first two classes, the last class, and the exams (not quizzes), attendance is not mandatory. However, absent students are responsible for the material covered in class.

• Students who attend the in-person classes will be awarded a grade of 100 that will be worth up to 5% of their final grade depending on the number of attended in-person classes.

Communication with the instructor:

• Announcements will be broadcast using the Brooklyn College WebCentral (or CUNYFirst). Students should make sure that both systems have their preferred email address.

• Course material (lectures, assignments, announcements, etc.) will be posted on the course website. http://www.sci.brooklyn.cuny.edu/~amotz/discretemath.html

• Office hours, either in room 2112 or in the classroom, will be on Thursdays 15 minutes after the end of the class starting at 12:30pm (TR11) and at 3:45pm (TR2).

• Students may email questions to amotz.CUNY+2210F23TR11@gmail.com (TR11) or to amotz.CUNY+2210F23TR2@gmail.com (TR2). Emails sent to the instructor’s other email addresses will be ignored.
Online procedure:

- The zoom links are
  - TR11: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8891344494?pwd=VTJJZaWRZb1ZMeDc3Z010aDFXanRGZz09
  - TR2: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88119834156?pwd=QTVMSTNRbFBmS0NBK2ttRmNjNDNDdz09

- Students must join the class prior to the start time, otherwise, they risk not being admitted.
- During zoom classes all students are expected to be muted.

Assignments:

- During the semester, there will be reading assignments to help students be better prepared for future topics and writing assignments for students to practice topics covered in previous classes.
- The due dates for the writing assignments will be class dates. Students may submit a written (preferably typed) assignment before or after the class or submit a PDF version as an attachment to
  - TR11: amotz.CUNY+2210S23TR11@gmail.com.
  - TR2: amotz.CUNY+2210S23TR2@gmail.com.
- Assignments will be graded with a **Pass-Fail grade**. After the due date, detailed solutions will be posted on the course website.
- Students should try their best to do the assignments alone and get help only if necessary. However, students **must** understand everything they write and **must** be ready to explain to the instructor what they wrote.

Exams and Quizzes:

- Final Exam tentative time and room:
  - Date and time: Thursday Dec 14 from 10:30am to 1:30pm
  - Room: The Tanger auditorium in the library

- Both midterm exams will be taken during class sessions. Tentatively the dates are
  - Midterm Exam 1: Tuesday September 26, 2023
  - Midterm Exam 2: Tuesday November 7, 2023

- Quizzes will be announced ahead of time. Usually there are two quizzes but there could be more or less quizzes.
- Quizzes are not mandatory.
- Exams and quizzes will be fully and accurately graded, and detailed solutions will be posted.
- Answer a question in an exam, in a quiz, or in an assignment, only within the given space for the answer, using legible handwriting for exams and quizzes, and typed text for assignments.
- Students will get 20% of the credit if they leave the answer blank and no credit for a wrong answer.
Project:

- The project is “open ended” and as such there will be no specific instructions of what to do although a few examples will be offered to illustrate the types of projects that would qualify.
- Submitted proposals will be graded only if they were approved.
- Submitting a project is not mandatory, however it is a great opportunity for students to boost their final grade.
- The deadline for submitting a project-proposal is Nov 16, 2023.
- The deadline for submitting the project and its final report is Nov 30, 2023.
- These are firm deadlines; there will be no exceptions.

Final grade: The final grade will be composed of the following components:

- 15% – 20% for the first midterm exam.
- 15% – 20% for the second midterm exam.
- 0% – 20% for the quizzes.
- 0% – 10% for the assignments.
- 0% – 15% for the project.
- 0% – 5% for attendance.
- 10% – 70% for the final exam.

Remarks:

- Both midterms are mandatory. Usually (but it is not guaranteed) their grades will be dropped if they are below the final exam’s grade and their allocated percentages will be “transferred” to the final exam.
- Quizzes are not mandatory and students may skip them or decide not to submit them. The grade of a quiz counts only if it is higher than the final exam grade.
- There will be nine writing assignments. Each submitted assignment will earn a grade of 100 toward 1% of the final grade. Submitting all the nine assignments will earn a grade of 100 toward 10% of the final grade.
- You lose nothing by trying to complete an approved project. Each completed and submitted project will earn a grade of 100. For those whose projects are outstanding the project will count as much as 15% toward the final grade. On the other hand, if a project fails to meet minimum standards the percentage could be zero.
- The percentage allocated to the final exam depends on the number of quizzes taken, the number of assignments submitted, the scope of the project, and attendance.
Honor code:

• Students are expected to do all the exams, quizzes, and project by themselves without any external help from other people, the Internet, or books and notes unless stated otherwise.

• Cheaters will be punished severely. At minimum, they will fail the specific exam or quiz, but they may fail the whole class.

• In addition, students who cheat risk disciplinary measures as stated in the CUNY policy on Academic Integrity:

  Academic Dishonesty is prohibited in the City University of New York and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion, as provided herein.