MAT 2440 Section D742 Syllabus

Fall 2016

Meetings

Monday and Wednesday, 8am - 9.40am, N420A

Instructor

Nikolas Melissaris

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Office hours

By appointment

Description

This course introduces the foundations of discrete mathematics as they apply to computer science, focusing on providing a solid theoretical foundation for further work. Topics include functions, relations, sets, proof techniques, Boolean algebra, propositional logic, elementary number theory, graph theory, writing, analyzing and testing algorithms.

Textbook

Discrete Mathematics and its Applications, 7th edition, Kenneth H. Rosen

Evaluation

Your final grade will be calculated as follows: Homework (5%) + Quizzes (10%) + Projects (5%) + Exams (50%) + Final (30%)

Practice Problems

It is crucial that you stay on top of the homework in this class. A list of practice homework problems assigned from the textbook will be distributed. You should solve as many problems as possible. They will not be collected, but they will help you prepare for exams and quizzes.

Homework

Homework assignments will be similar to the practice problems mentioned above. There will be 5 homework assignments given throughout the semester with the lowest grade being dropped. Late homework will be accepted with a 10% penalty for every late day. You are encouraged to discuss solutions with your classmates and turn for help to the internet and other resources but your write-up needs to be your own. This is the best way to learn from a problem.

Quizzes

Problems on the quizzes will be similar to practice problems. Quizzes serve as a check that you understand the material. There will be 10 quizzes given throughout the semester with the lowest two grades being dropped. Make-up quizzes will not be given.

Projects

Projects will be assigned throughout the semester. Students will work in small groups to solve a problem using methods learned from class. These assignments will involve turning in a neat write-up of your results. Details to follow.

Exams

There will be three 100-minute exams on September 21, October 26 and November 21. Your lowest test grade will be worth 10%, making your two best exam scores worth 20% of the course each. Make-up exams will not be given.

Final Exam

The final exam will be a one-session exam based on the whole term. It will be on December 19. It is the responsibility of each student to be available at the time of the examination. You must take the final exam in order to pass the course.

Class participation

At the discretion of the instructor, there will be extra credit available (to a maximum of 2 points on your final grade) for writing homework solutions on the blackboard and answering questions in class.

Attendance

You are expected to attend all classes and are responsible for all the material covered. Attendance is required and will be taken at the beginning of each class. Lateness and students leaving before the end of the class period will be recorded. If you arrive late, you are responsible for letting me know at the end of the class. The official Mathematics Department policy is that two lateness (this includes arriving late or leaving early) is equivalent to one absence. In this course a student may have 3 absences during the semester without penalty. After 3 absences, the penalty can result in a grade reduction; in excessive cases, you may be asked to withdraw from the course. Students are responsible for obtaining all the information from classes that they miss with classmates as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at the New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion. The complete text of the College policy on Academic Integrity may be found in the catalog.

Preparation

You are expected to come to class having already completed the reading and having looked at the textbook practice problems for the upcoming lesson. By studying the material before each class you will be ready to discuss the material in more depth and have specific questions to ask about parts of the material that may be giving you difficulty.

Participation

A part of the class that will benefit you comes from how you interact with the others. I encourage you to present problems, contribute your ideas and insights, work in groups, and ask questions.