

Homework: Assignments will be set regularly, and a subset of the assigned problems will be graded. The assigned problems represent only a minimal set of problems. You should do the more straightforward problems on your own as a warmup. I recommend working additional problems whenever possible, especially in an area that you find challenging. *Practice is essential to the mastery of mathematics.* Students are responsible for compiling their own ‘solution sets’, comprised of their own submissions, augmented by notes from meetings with other students and with the instructor.

I urge you from the outset to get into the habit of staying on schedule with your reading and homework. This will help you to maximize the material you’re able to absorb in class, meaning less effort in preparing for tests.

Course web page: Up-to-date course information will be posted electronically. This includes this information sheet (syllabus), homework assignments, and a link to the textbook’s homepage. The URL is www.math.umt.edu/kay11/225.07/. I suggest you bookmark this page and check it weekly. This will be the unique method of distributing homework assignments.

General Remarks

On homework: Please use complete sentences, proofread, and polish your work prior to submission. Your solutions should be clearly written, giving thorough explanations. Do not assume that your audience can read your mind. It often helps to look over your solutions before submitting them and ask yourself if a classmate could easily understand what you have written. You are encouraged to type homework solutions unless your handwriting is clear. You may work with others on homework problems, and you are encouraged to do so.

Solutions should be written down privately in your own words.

If you use an important idea of someone else, then please acknowledge that person by giving an appropriate citation in your write-up. This professional courtesy will not affect your grade. Finally, please *staple* your assignments.

On exams: As noted above, there are two in-class tests and a final exam. The latter will be cumulative with a slight emphasis on the material not covered by the in-class tests.

On make-ups: Make-ups for tests will *not* be given unless there is a valid excuse cleared with the instructor *prior* to the test. Since at least your most detrimental assignment is dropped, there are no homework make-ups.

On deadlines: Any stated deadlines will be firm; please do not ask for extensions.

On conduct: All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the university.

All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at www.umt.edu/SA/VPSA/index.cfm/name/StudentConductCode.

Additional References

1. J. L. GERSTING, *Mathematical Structures for Computer Science, 5th ed.*, W.H. Freeman and Co., New York, 2003
2. L. LOVÁSZ, J. PELIKÁN AND K. VESZTERGOMBI, *Discrete Mathematics: Elementary and Beyond*, Springer, New York, 2003
3. J. MATOUŠEK AND J. NEŠETŘIL, *Invitation to Discrete Mathematics*, Oxford, New York, 1998

Combinatorics is the most fundamental, and hence the most important, branch of mathematics, since it deals with FINITE structures, and the world is finite.

DORON ZEILBERGER, *Board of Governors Professor of Mathematics*
Rutgers University

