

Fall 2016: Math 353- Introduction to Combinatorics I, Course Information Sheet

- Instructor:** David Hemmer
- Office:** 211 or 226 (chair's office) Mathematics Building
- Email:** dhemmer@math.buffalo.edu
- Office Phone:** 645-8775
- Class Meetings:** MWF 2:00-2:50 p.m. Math 150
- Office Hours:** Monday 10:00-11:00
Wednesday 11:30-12:30
Thursday 3:00-4:00 or by appointment. Be sure to check both offices!
- Text:** Allenby & Slomson: How to Count An Introduction To Combinatorics- 2nd ed.
- Contacting Dave:** Email is probably the easiest way to contact me. If you are unable to make my office hours, please feel free to schedule an appointment or drop by.
- Prerequisite:** Officially MTH 241. Unofficially the main prerequisite is mathematical maturity,
- Course Description:** This is going to be a fast-paced and fun course, and hopefully everyone will learn a lot of interesting mathematics. It is going to be essential to keep up with the reading, including learning definitions.
- Class Website:** All course material will be posted on the class website:

<http://www.math.buffalo.edu/~dhemmer/353F16.html>

There is also a form on the website to leave anonymous feedback about the class.
- Homework:** The homework assignments in this class will be vitally important, and are worth one third of the final grade. I will not in general accept late homework unless prior arrangements have been made. I encourage students to work together on solving the problems, however you must write up your final solutions individually and *be sure you personally understand all the work you turn in*. Simply copying solutions is not acceptable. It is possible that I will only grade a selection of problems each week. Still this will be a lot of effort, so neatly written up and clearly labeled papers will certainly leave me in a better mood!
- Quizzes:** I will occasionally give unannounced brief quizzes covering definitions or very easy examples. Just like learning a foreign language, it is difficult to master grammar without any vocabulary. Same here, keep up with the definitions and examples!
- Exams:** There will be a midterm exam sometime around the midterm!
- Final Exam:** The final exam will be Monday 12/12/16 from 3:30-6:30 in Math 150.

Grading: I will determine your final grade out of 600 points as follows:

Quizzes:	50 points
Midterm	100 points
Final Exam:	150 points
Homework:	200 points
Final project:	100 points

No one will receive a final grade lower than the usual grades (i.e. 90-100% A range, 80-89% B range, etc...), although I reserve the right to “curve” grades up. The lowest two homework and lowest two quiz grades will be dropped.

Resigning/Dropping: The final day to drop a course (no record on your transcript) is September 6. The final day to resign from a course (R on your transcript) is November 11.

Attendance: I expect regular class attendance, although I do not plan to keep track. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out what went on. If I announce in class the date of a midterm has been changed, you need to find this out! If you know ahead of time you will be unable to attend an examination for a valid reason, please let me know well in advance so we can make arrangements.

Electronic Devices: Please be respectful and keep phones and other devices silenced and stowed away!

Disabilities: If you require classroom or testing accommodations due to a disability, please contact Accessibility Resources, located at 25 Capen Hall. AR can be reached by phone at (716) 645-2608 or by email at stu-accessibility@buffalo.edu. Please inform me as soon as possible about your needs so that we can coordinate your accommodations.

Academic Honesty: The student conduct rules at <http://www.ub-judiciary.buffalo.edu/rulereg.shtml/> will be enforced. A random sample of examination papers may be photocopied. Any cheating on exams will be given the maximum punishment possible. If you are having difficulties please talk to me about it rather than attempting to cheat!