LINEAR AND DISCRETE MATHEMATICS (MATH 2602)
FALL 2008
MWF 10:05-10:55 SKILES 246
TTH 10:05-10:55 ES&T L1255

1. Important Information

Instructor: Stephen J. Young
Office: Skiles 139
Office Hours: MW 9 – 10 or by appointment
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Office Phone: (404)-385-2468

Course Webpage www.math.gatech.edu/~young/teaching/math2602/fall2008/
Teaching Assistant: Giles Santomauro
TA Office: Skiles 230
Textbook *Linear and Discrete Mathematics; Custom Edition for Georgia Tech*

2. Grading Breakdown

Final grades in this course will be determined according to the following rubric, with the proviso that in order to pass the class you must pass the final exam. At the judgement of the instructor and on an individual basis, course grades may be higher than the numerical calculation would yield.

(10%) **Quizzes** Up to one quiz will be given each week, excepting the first and last weeks, and weeks in which a test is scheduled.

(45%) **Exams** The exams are tentatively scheduled for September 18, October 23, and November 25. Each test is worth 15% of your final grade.

(30%) **Final Exam** The final exam is tentatively scheduled for Thursday December 11, 2:50 pm - 5:40 pm. In order to receive a passing grade in the class, a passing grade on the final **must** be achieved.

(15%) **Writing and Presentation Projects** Over the course of the semester you will be assigned a series of writing projects culminating in a final group paper and presentation during dead week.

3. Grading System

All quizzes, exams, and projects will be graded on the following holistic five-point scale:

5 Well written and complete and explanation/proof. ($\sim$ A+)

4 Explanation/proof convinces reader of correctness($\sim$ A)

3 There are minor reader correctable and/or typographical errors in the explanation/proof.($\sim$ B)

2 Explanation/proof provides significant ideas that the reader can clearly see will lead to a correct result even though all details are not present. ($\sim$ C)

1 The reader would be unconvinced that the ideas expressed in the explanation/proof will lead to a correct result. ($\sim$ D)

0 No work or work that will not lead to a correct result. ($\sim$ F)

Note that grades of 0 or 1 correspond to failing grades. Each part of a given quiz, test or assignment will be graded separately on this scale, then the parts averaged together to give a composite grade for the item. For instance, suppose that on a 5 question test you received grades of 1, 4, 5, 3, 3; then your composite grade would be 3.2 corresponding to a B, **not** a 64%. Also note that the grades are not rounded up, a 3.5 is a middle B and a 3.9 is a high B, only when the grade is at least 4 would the grade be an A.

4. Course Policies

- Unless otherwise specified in writing, all quizzes and tests are closed book, closed notes, and without the aid of any computation devices such as calculators, abacuses, sliderules, cell phones, PDAs, etc.

- Make up quizzes will not be given except as required by Institute policy. There will be no make-up exams, however I have a fair way of dealing with *excused absences*. If you have a valid reason for missing an exam, you must receive permission from the instructor (not the teaching assistant) well before the examination date. No student will be allowed to take the final exam outside the scheduled time except as established by Georgia Tech policy on conflicting exams. I encourage you to look over your final exam schedule now and ask me if you have any questions about conflicts.
- Please silence all cell phones and noise making devices during class. Note that some models of cell phone when put on vibrate make a significant amount of noise.
- All writing assignments are to be turned in at the start of the class period in which they are due, late work *will not* be accepted. It is expected that all writing assignments are typed, single spaced, and use proper grammatical English. Although you may, and in fact are encouraged to, have your written assignments read and critiqued prior to turning them in, all work must be your own and any references must be properly attributed.
- If you believe a quiz or exam has been graded incorrectly do not mark the quiz or exam in any way. Submit in writing to the instructor, along with your exam or quiz, a short statement of why your think a *particular* problem, or set of problems was graded incorrectly. Regrade requests will not be accepted later than the end of the class period after they are returned for quizzes, or the end of the class period one week after they are returned for tests. I reserve the right to photocopy any or all of your exams and quizzes in order to prevent regrade abuse.
- Homework will be assigned periodically and although it will not be collected or graded it is to your benefit to do it. Mathematics is a participatory activity, it can not be learned by osmosis.
- Exams and quizzes will contain questions that are harder than the average homework question. In particular, some questions will require you to synthesize material from different sections in order to effectively answer the question. Thus, in order to receive a "good" grade in this course, you must understand the material at a deeper level than just "plug-and-chug".
- In order to receive full credit on quizzes and exams you must show all work in a clear and coherent manner. In particular, correct answers not fully supported by explanations using complete sentences will not receive full credit. It is your responsibility to present your solutions in an easily understood manner.
- If you need help outside of normal office hours, please feel free to stop by my office. I may not be able to help at that moment, but we will at least be able to arrange another time to meet.
- Please keep all your tests and quizzes; if you believe there has been an error in recording test grades they are the only way to validate your claim. Also, grades will be placed on T-Square, so please periodically check the grades posted there so we can resolve any issues quickly.

5. Honor Code

Please review the Georgia Tech Honor Code,
`http://www.deanofstudents.gatech.edu/integrity/policies/honor_code.php`.

As a student member of the Honor Committee, I take academic integrity very seriously. Cheating of any form is unacceptable and will be handled via the appropriate channels. If you have any questions about whether an action would violate course policies please consult me first.