MATH 117 - Discrete Mathematics
Syllabus: Fall 2011

Professor: Dr. Sarah K Mason, 334 Manchester, masonsk@wfu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays: 10:00am-11:00am
(subject to change) Wednesdays: 1:45pm-2:30pm
Thursdays: 2:00pm-3:00pm
Fridays: 11:00am-12:00noon
Course Meetings: MWF 12:30pm-1:45pm, Manchester 125
Course Website: http://www.wfu.edu/~masonsk/M117.html
Textbook: Susanna S. Epp, Discrete Mathematics with Applications, 4e (or 3e)

1. COURSE SUMMARY AND GOALS

The topics covered in this course are essential to the study of both mathematics and computer science. We will cover parts of chapters 2 through 11 in the textbook, focusing on topics such as logic, set theory, number theory, proof techniques, and induction, plus a little bit of combinatorics and graph theory.

2. HOMEWORK (15% OF FINAL GRADE)

Weekly homework will be posted on the course website each Friday and due at the beginning of class the following Friday. A typical assignment will consist of about 8 to 12 problems, of which 5 will be graded (worth 4 points each) by myself and the Teaching Assistant. The remainder will be graded for completion (worth a total of 10 points) so that each homework assignment is worth 30 points. I encourage you to talk to each other about your homework assignments, but the work you submit must be your own. I do not accept late homework. Instead, I will drop your lowest homework grade.

3. CLASSWORK AND CLASS PARTICIPATION (15% FINAL GRADE)

Each day some portion of the class time will be devoted to groupwork and/or discussion. This classwork will be centered around an assignment, due either at the end of that class period or the beginning of the next. You are expected to come to class and participate, and if you have to miss a class it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate and catch up on any material you have missed. Your homework and classwork grades will be posted on Sakai. (https://sakai.wfu.edu)

4. MIDTERMS/EXAM (70% OF FINAL GRADE)

There will be two in-class midterms and one comprehensive final exam for this course. Exam questions will reflect the material covered in class discussions, readings, and homework. The dates for the exams are:

Midterm 1: 3 October (20%)
Midterm 2: 21 November (20%)
Final Exam: 16 December, 2:00pm-5:00pm (30%)

5. GETTING HELP

While office hours and appointments with your professor should be the first place you turn for help understanding the material, there are a variety of additional resources available to help you succeed in your coursework at Wake Forest. I encourage you to take advantage of these when you are seeking extra assistance or a different perspective. In particular, the Teaching Assistant for this course, Scott Hubbard, will be holding office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Please contact the Learning Assistance Center (336-758-5929) within the first two weeks of the semester if you have a disability that may require an accommodation for taking this course.