Discrete Systems
Spring Semester 2003

Course MATHS 215 Section 1    MTWF 12:00 – 12:50 pm    RB 118
Instructor Dr. Hanspeter Fischer
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Office Hours M 11:00 – 11:50, T 11:00 – 11:50, W 10:00 – 10:50 pm, R 11:30 – 12:20,
F 11:00 - 11:50, and by appointment.

Prerequisites Math 165


Contents This course will cover Chapters 1 through 7, with the exception of Chapter 5; selected sections of Chapter 8 will also be included. At times, we will digress from the exposition of the textbook. It is therefore very important to take notes in class.

Homework Homework assignments will be announced as we work through the material. Some problems will be assigned for practice only, while other designated problems will be collected and graded. As a rule, homework will be due the Tuesday of the following week; the exception being the week before an exam, during which other due dates might be announced. Late homework will not be accepted. The assignments (with due dates and hints to selected problems) will be available online at above Website. When submitting exercises make sure to have your name and course number on it to earn credit.

One of the goals of this course is to learn how to write proofs. Your homework assignments are therefore an important part of your engagement with the material. Never submit the first draft of your homework. Instead, neatly rewrite your ideas into logically complete proofs, which could be easily read and understood by a classmate.

Please staple your solutions.

Examinations There will be five midterm examinations. The comprehensive final exam will be on Tuesday, April 29, 12:00 – 2:00 pm. All exams must be taken at their scheduled time; the only exception being a verifiable illness or family emergency, of which you must inform your instructor before the test.
**Evaluation** Each of the five midterm exams is 12% of your grade and the final exam represents 24%. Homework accounts for the remaining 16%.

The approximate grading scale (in percent) is:
A: 90 – 100, B: 80 – 90, C: 70 – 80, D: 60 – 70, F: below 60.

**Time Table** A tentative schedule is attached. See above web site for changes and updates.

**Deadlines** The last day to change a course is Friday, January 10.
The first course–withdrawal period ends on Thursday, February 6.
The second course–withdrawal period ends on Friday, March 7.

**General Remarks**

1. Students are expected to use their textbook to read upcoming sections ahead of time. Be always up to date!

2. It takes time to digest and master new abstract concepts. Expect to study for a minimum of two to three hours outside of class for each hour in class.

3. Everybody is strongly encouraged to form study groups with classmates. However, credit should be claimed only for one’s own work.

4. If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share with me, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible.