Math 125, Fall 2009

Instructor
The instructor is Dr. Jason Grout, Howard 235, (515) 271-3113, jason.grout@drake.edu. Office hours are MWF: 11AM-noon, and MW: 3:15PM-4:15PM. If you need to come see me at another time, please schedule an appointment or stop by my office.

The Course

Textbook

Time Management
An average college student in this class should expect to spend an average of around 6-8 hours each week outside of class on class-related work (preparation, assignments, review, etc.). Procrastination leads to less effective learning—it pays to review feedback and work on new material as soon as possible so that you have time to ponder and get questions answered.

Expectations

You can expect me to:

• Prepare class material that will help you learn this subject
• Be available during office hours and other times as arranged, and usually respond by the next class day to inquiries
• Prepare challenging assignments and assessments that help you learn the material and technology
• Provide prompt feedback, usually returning submitted material within a week
• Communicate changes to this syllabus or other course policies through at least one of the website, email, or in class

I expect you to:

• Prepare for class by doing assignments and reading course notes or the book, as needed
• Be in class on time and ready to learn; ask questions and participate in class
• Be an active, diligent participant in group work and projects
• Be respectful of others and follow high standards of honesty and integrity
• Learn to use technology to help you solve problems
• Talk with me as soon as possible if there is something I can do to help you learn the material better

Coursework

Projects

Much of the material in this course involves modeling projects. For smaller, more frequent projects, there will usually be a short list of things you should do. For larger projects, you will be more responsible for the directions in which you answer the question and explore alternatives.

A portion of the project assignments will involve a writeup of your answers. These will be graded both on content as well as presentation (i.e., grammar, style, etc.). One aspect of the presentation to keep in mind is that a significant aspect of math modeling is being able to explain your results and ideas to others. Often, your audience will not have the mathematical background to understand your methods, and they may not care about the mathematical details. Instead, they just want an understanding of the results and how the results affect decisions. Other times, your audience will want to understand a little or a lot about how you obtained your results.

There will be two major projects in the course: a midterm project and a final project. Details about these will be explained in class during the semester.

Homework

Specific homework instructions will be given in class, on the course website, or in handouts.

Late Assignments

Late work will not be accepted, except possibly in extreme circumstances.

Grading

Your scores are weighted as follows. Though the final project is only weighted at 20% of the grade, you will not pass the course if you earn a failing grade on the final project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini-Projects</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</table>
Midterm Project | 20%
---|---
Final Project | 20%

Policies

**Academic Honesty**

See http://www.drake.edu/dos/handbook/academic.php#as for details of what constitutes cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty. For example:

- Plagiarism is the misrepresentation, either by intent or negligence, of another's ideas, phrases, discourse, or works as one's own.
- Cheating is the act, or attempted act, of giving or obtaining aid and/or information by illicit means in meeting any academic requirement, including examinations.

Cases of academic dishonesty will result in at least a failing grade on the assignment and may also result in a failing grade in the course.

**Disability**

If you have a disability and will require academic accommodations in this course, I would be happy to discuss your needs. Accommodations are coordinated through Student Disability Services (first floor Old Main).

Please contact Michelle Laughlin, Director of Student Disability Service, at 271-1835 or michelle.laughlin@drake.edu.

This syllabus is subject to change. Changes will be communicated via at least one of the course website, email, or in class.