Discrete Mathematics

MATH 245

Location.

- Section 01. MWF 09:05 am 09:55 am, 213 Roop
- Section 02. MWF 10:10 am 11:00 am, 212 Roop
- **Professor.** Leonard Van Wyk (rhymes with "bike"), 124 Roop Hall, ×8-2514, vanwyk@math.jmu.edu or vanwykla@jmu.edu.
- Text. A Discrete Transition to Advanced Mathematics, by Bettina and Thomas Richmond.
- Office Hours. 11:15 am 12:05 MWF, and by appointment.
- **Course Web Page.** www.math.jmu.edu/~vanwyk/courses/245/contains announcements, sections covered to date, homework assigned, etc.
- **Material.** We will cover most of Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 5, possibly with a few other sections from other chapters.
- **Homework.** Selected homework problems will be assigned for each section. Six of these will be denoted as "hand-in" problems. On the day that they are due, you will hand all six in and I will roll a die to see which of the six problems I will grade. Each problem will be worth 10 points. IT WOULD BE IN YOUR BEST INTEREST TO DO ALL THE PROBLEMS, SINCE YOUR EXAM PROBLEMS WILL BE VERY SIMILAR TO THEM.
- **Exams.** There will be three exams: Monday September 24, Monday October 29, and Friday November 30. Each exam will be graded out of 100 points. DO NOT MISS AN EXAMINATION. (See "make-up policy" below.) Most of the exam questions will be remarkably similar to assigned homework problems (all of them, not just the hand-in problems).
- **Final Exam.** The final exam is cumulative and will be graded out of 200 points. The final exam dates/times are:
 - Section 01. Wednesday, December 12, 08:00 am 10:00 am, 213 Roop
 - Section 02. Monday, December 10, 08:00 am 10:00 am, 212 Roop
- **Grading.** At the end of the semester, I will total everyone's points from homework, exams, and the final, plot them on a graph, and determine the grades from that distribution. I try to write my exams so that there shouldn't be any great surprises about the grades (e.g., 90's is some kind of A, 80's is some kind of B, etc.). The reason I plot out the totals is to look for "gaps" in the grades to help me determine where the cutoffs are for A's, B's, C's, etc. I also reserve the right to make minor adjustments in grades based on attendance, class performance, etc. I will try to keep you abreast on your standing in the class. For example, after each exam, I will provide you with a distribution containing all the exam grades.

- **Make-up Policy.** DO NOT ASSUME YOU WILL BE GIVEN A MAKE-UP EXAM/QUIZ JUST BECAUSE YOU MISSED CLASS. With the exception of extraordinary situations, anything you miss counts as a "0". If you are unsure about whether or not your situation falls under the "extraordinary" category, talk to me. I am more likely to be understanding if you talk to me *before* the fact than after the fact.
- **Cheating.** JMU has an honor code, and you should abide by it. If I catch you cheating, I will hand over supporting evidence to the administration and let them deal with you as with you as they see fit.
- Advice. Read the book slowly, carefully, and often. If you do whatever I tell you to, then you will be happier than if you don't.