

SYLLABUS: Math 100

Don Faust

We will consider a wide range of fundamental, and fundamentally important, mathematical models and tools. Equipped with a solid familiarity with these models and tools, one can begin to study the major mathematical attacks which have so far been invented for the understanding and solution of a wide variety of analytical problems.

More generally, the following broad perspective may be helpful to you. The fundamental tools of mathematics provide a rich storehouse of models for the representation and solution of many problems. Making intelligent use of these models involves both (1) developing a facility for analyzing problems and casting them in ways which, where appropriate, make good use of these models of mathematics, and (2) developing a facility for working with these models themselves. Our course will take us through a representative sample of these tools of mathematics, and will concentrate on both aspects (1) and (2) delineated above. It can be a very exciting journey (if your involvement is sincere and includes both good class attendance and a parallel daily commitment to hammering things out on your own through daily study and problem-solving), at the end of which you will find not only that your mathematical maturity has been substantially enriched, but also that the general analytical skills you bring to bear in the broader arena of your daily life will be substantially enriched as well.

Text:

UNDERSTANDING INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA by Hirsch and Goodman

Evaluation:

Firstly, in addition to ungraded daily assignments, there will be a sequence of graded SUBMITTED ASSIGNMENTS which can be resubmitted repeatedly until satisfactory.

Secondly, there will be four mid-semester exams and a final exam. Only very exceptional circumstances could justify missing an exam; in these rare cases, except in emergencies, permission must be requested in advance.

The evaluation framework is as follows (please note especially the dates, already fixed, when the four mid-semester exams will take place):

Exam 1:	Wed	29 Sep	150 points
Exam 2:	Wed	20 Oct	150 points
Exam 3:	Wed	10 Nov	150 points
Exam 4:	Wed	1 Dec	150 points
Final Exam:			350 points
Submitted Assignments:			
	to be submitted en masse by		
	Fri 3 Dec for grade recording		50 points
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		Total:	1000 points

Grading:

90-100%, A; 80-89%, B; 70-79%, C; 60-69%, D; 0-59%, F. The grading may be less stringent, but not more stringent, than this.

Note regarding special needs:

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock (227-1700; TTY 227-1543). Reasonable and effective accommodations and services will be provided to students if requests are made in a timely manner, with appropriate documentation, in accordance with federal, state and University guidelines.