Course syllabus –MA103 Finite Math – Winter ‘09

Class Time and location: 10:00 AM, MTWR, WS2901

Instructor: Richard Balding
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Office hours: 11-11:50, 1-2 (exc T) MTWR or by appointment

Course objective :

This course has three main parts; 1) a review and extension of algebra skills, 2) the mathematics of finance, and 3) introductory probability and statistics.

This course satisfies the Foundations of Natural Science/Mathematics requirement.

Students who complete this course should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of mathematical logic; use mathematics to solve scientific or mathematical problems in college classes; express relationships in the symbolic language of mathematics; and appreciate the role of mathematics in analyzing natural phenomena.

Requirements:

1) Attendance is important. You will receive an attendance grade (as a test grade), based on your per cent attendance. In case of an illness, you will be responsible for keeping up with class work and notifying me if you want the absence excused. **<u>On days of tests or quizzes, you must call or e-mail me before class to be excused.</u>**

2) Homework will be assigned at the end of most classes. Most of the time the homework will not be collected, but is essential to the learning of the material. The best way to learn math is to do math.

3) Your final grade will be determined from a combination of the points achieved from your collected homework (if any), quizzes, tests and the final exam. There will be 7 or 8 tests and the final (and possibly quizzes on smaller amounts of material). The final will be worth about 1 ½ tests. You may drop the lowest test score (attendance test grade may be counted as a test only if it is above 75% - otherwise, it will be the one dropped).

Required Materials:

1) Finite Mathematics (second edition), by Berresford and Rockett, Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

2) IBM Thinkpad (TI interactive) or graphing calculator – a scientific calculator may be helpful if using a Thinkpad

Material to be covered:

We will cover most of chapters 1 – 6

Grading scale: (Approximate)

90-100%	A's
80-89.9%	B's
70-79.9%	C's
60-69.9%	D's
below 60%	F

DISABILITY SERVICES

If you have a need for disability-related accommodations or services, please inform the Coordinator of Disability Services in the Disability Services Office by: coming into the office at 2001 C. B. Hedgcock; calling 227-1700; or e-mailing disserv@nmu.edu. 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.