

Math 447–547 Combinatorial Mathematics
Spring 2011
MWF 2:00–2:50 in Chavez 103

Instructor: W. Faris

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Office Hours: Mon 4:00, Wed 1:00 (tutoring in Math 220), Fr 12:00

Text: David R. Mazur, *Combinatorics: A Guided Tour*

Topics: Basic counting and existence principles, counting sets and functions, the inclusion-exclusion principle, generating functions, Pólya's theory of counting, combinatorial designs and error-correcting codes

Hour exams: February 21

April 1

Final Exam: Friday, May 6, 1:00PM–3:00PM

Missed Exams: Missed exams must be justified in writing before the exam and must be approved by the instructor. (In extreme emergency the mathematics office may be telephoned before the exam, with the message that a letter is on the way.) Justification for missing an exam due to a conflict with another scheduled activity must be submitted the first week of classes.

Scores for Missed Exams: A score for a justified missed exam will be assigned based on the average of the other exams. A missed final exam will result in a grade of I or E.

Homework: There will be regular homework assignments. No credit will be given for late work, unless it is justified in advance, in writing.

Class participation: Students are expected to attend every class; missed classes must be justified in advance, in writing. The instructor may drop a student who misses class. Class participation is an important part of the grade.

Grading: 2 Hour Exams 200 points

Homework: 200 points

Class participation: 200 points

Final Exam: 200 points

The numerical scores will be converted to letter grades at the end of the semester. The grading system is that given in the General Catalog (A – Excellent, B – Good, C – Fair, D – Poor, E – Failure). Higher numerical scores will give the same or higher letter grades. The actual cutoff points will depend on the general performance of the class and on the difficulty of the exams. Other possible grades are W (withdrawal passing weeks 5 through 8), WP (complete withdrawal passing), WF (complete withdrawal failing). The last two are appropriate for complete withdrawal from the University by the last class day.

Withdrawal: February 8 last drop with deletion

March 8 last drop with W or E

May 4 last drop with WP or WF if withdrawing from University