

MATH 130: MATHEMATICS IN ACTION SYLLABUS - SPRING 2017

Instructor: Vaidy Sivaraman

Course meets: MWF 8:30–9:30 am in LH 14

Office: WH 127

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1. TEXTBOOK

Mathematics in Action, F. Guzmán and L.C. Kappe, Binghamton University. (Spring 2017 edition.)

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to provide students with an experience in quantitative reasoning and data analysis through mathematical modeling of some real life problems including a hands-on approach. Further emphasis will be on illustrating the importance, relevance, and currency of mathematics in the modern world. The topics covered include: voting methods, weighted voting systems, apportionment, fair division, counting problems, probability, measuring populations, statistics, normal distributions, and statistical inference.

3. BLACKBOARD

It will be possible for you to see your grades in Blackboard. There will be no other use of Blackboard. All announcements will be made on the webpage and **not** on Blackboard. This also applies to the homework assignments.

4. DISCUSSION SECTIONS

Discussion sections are for you to ask questions on past homework problems and material covered in class. Every week, there will be a 15 minute quiz which should be easy if you have done the previous homework assignment. The students are mostly in charge of dictating what will be discussed in discussion section so I strongly encourage you to come prepared with questions!

- A01 10450 Sayak Sengupta T 8:30-9:55 FA 245
- A02 10456 Marcus Painter T 8:30-9:55 FA 244
- A03 10459 Andrew Lamoureux T 4:25-5:50 FA 246
- A04 10726 Amy Hannahan T 4:25-5:50 FA 245
- A05 10733 Sayak Sengupta R 8:30-9:55 FA 245
- A06 10736 Andrew Lamoureux R 8:30-9:55 FA 244
- A07 12193 Marcus Painter R 4:25-5:50 FA 245
- A08 10751 Amy Hannahan R 4:25-5:50 FA 246

5. EXAMS

There will be three tests during the semester and one final exam during the final week. The 3 tests will be given in class (not in your discussion section). See the webpage for the schedule. No books, notes, calculators or cell phones are allowed during exams. You can only use a pen or a pencil.

6. QUIZZES

There will be a 15 minute quiz every week. These quizzes will be given by your TA during your discussion section. No notes, books, calculators or cell phones are allowed during quizzes. You can only use a pen or a pencil.

7. HOMEWORK

There will be one homework assignment due at the beginning of your section each week. Each assignment will consist of 3 to 5 questions from the exercises in the book. Though you are not required to turn in all of the exercises in the book, I encourage you to do them all. Your TA will only grade one or two random problems from the homework each week so it is important that you complete the whole assignment in order to get credit for it.

The homework assignment will be posted every week on the webpage.

8. MAKE-UP POLICY

- There will be no late homework accepted for any reason whatsoever. You have a whole week to do it, so if you anticipate missing a discussion for some reason you should turn the homework in **early** (for instance by putting it in your TA's mailbox in Whitney Hall).
- There will be no makeup quizzes and a missed quiz will receive a score of zero. If you miss a quiz due to illness or a similar reason, alert your TA immediately via email and be prepared to provide them with appropriate documentation. That quiz will be dropped. Also, in general, everyone's lowest quiz grade will be dropped (see "Grading policy" below). This is the purview of the TAs, again, do not email me about missed quizzes.
- If you miss an exam due to exceptional circumstances you should contact me as soon as possible, no later than 24 hours after the test is given.
- To be eligible for a makeup test you must provide an original document which excuses your absence such as a doctor's note or a police ticket. The document should be issued to you on the test's day. For example, if you missed a test on Friday, you should provide me a doctor's note from Friday.
- Any makeup exam will be scheduled within 1 week from the missed test. If you know in advance you'll need a make-up exam, notify me at least a week in advance. No one can take an exam early for any reason.
- In general, any discussion of make-ups and/or dropping missed quizzes should happen via email; there are so many students in this class, it's very hard to remember every in-person conversation I have with every student.

9. GRADING POLICY

The final counts 30%, test 1 15%, test 2 15%, test 3 15%, quizzes 15% and homework assignments 10%.

10. ACADEMIC HONESTY

No cheating is permitted. Any cases of cheating will be subject to investigation by the Academic Honesty committee of Harpur College.