1 General Info

Name: Dr. Christopher Brazfield, Associate Professor  
Office: Lynch 283H  
Office Hours: 10:00 AM–11:30 AM MWF; 5:00 PM–7:00 PM TTH  
by appointment; and anytime my door is open.  
Phone: (717) 867-6088  
E-mail: brazfiel@lvc.edu

2 Text


3 Mission Statement

The Department of Mathematical Sciences is dedicated to the ideals of liberal education. We strive to develop in our students enduring fundamental abilities of effective lifelong learning: precise reading, sound reasoning, and clear communication. More than any particular facts or theories, we emphasize that language, logic and understanding are the heart and true power of mathematics. These principles guide the design and implementation of general education and service courses as well as the curricula for our majors.

4 Homework

Homework will be assigned weekly. Each assignment will have a reading component and problems from the text. Homework problems will be collected daily at the beginning of class. You will not be allowed to submit late homework.

The homework will be worth 5% of the class grade. Each homework assignment will be worth the same as every other homework assignment. The four lowest homework assignment scores will be dropped.

The rubric for grading each homework problem is as follows:

- a 5 indicates that the problem is correct, well written (in complete sentences if appropriate), clear and concise;
- a 4 indicates the problem is correct but has a small problem that is easily fixed, is well written and clear;
- a 3 indicates the problem is correct but may have more than one minor mistake or it may be poorly written;
- a 2 indicates that the answer may be correct but the explanation is not acceptable because it is sloppy, poorly written, or unclear;
- a 1 indicates the problem is incorrect but significant progress was made toward a solution
- a 0 indicates that there is no basis for credit because the explanation is missing or it indicates that the idea(s) relating the question were not understood or misunderstood.

In addition to the graded problems, the assignment as a whole will be considered and graded according to the following rubric:

- a “plus” will be given for an assignment that is typed up, well written, and missing no more than 20% of the assigned problems;
- a “check” will be given for an assignment that is well written, readable, and missing no more than 20% of the assigned problems;
- a “minus” will be given for an assignment that is messy or it is clear that it is the scratch work that has been handed in or it is missing more than 20% (but less than 50%) of the assigned problems;
• a “zero” will be given for an assignment that is missing more than 50% of the assigned problems but is handed in;

On each assignment, for each problem graded, I’ll add 5 points for a “plus”, 4.5 points for a “check”, 2.5 points for a “minus”, and 0 points for a “zero”. In addition your final grade will drop by 1 percentage point for every assignment missed past the third. Grading certain problems and the assignment as a whole will then allow me to put a percentage on the assignment.

5 Quizzes

There will be a short reading quiz at the beginning of each class. The 3 lowest quizzes will be dropped. The quizzes will be 25% of the final grade.

6 Exams

There will be four exams during the semester and one comprehensive final exam. The dates are listed on the schedule. Each of the exams is worth 10% of the final grade. The final exam is worth 30% of the final grade.

7 Grading

To recap the grading: Homework is worth 5%, Quizzes are worth 25%, each Exam worth 10%, and the Final Exam worth 30%. The grading scale is 92% for an A, 90% for an A-, 88% for a B+, 82% for a B, 80% for a B-, 78% for a C+, 72% for a C, 70% for a C-, 68% for a D+, 62% for a D, 60% for a D-, < 60% for an F.

8 Policies and Procedures

Students will adhere to all Procedures, Policies, and Codes given in the 2007-2008 Student Handbook. This includes but is not limited to policies on Academic Honesty.

It is academically honest to ask questions of fellow students and discuss problems from the homework and reading. It is not honest to look upon what someone intends to hand it in and pass the work off as your own. It is honest to look in the back of the book for answers and indicate on your paper that you looked there. It is not honest to copy what is written in the back of the book. It is honest to help a fellow classmate with a question. It is not honest to hand them your homework. You may share ideas, but not answers. If you do work with someone, you must indicate at the top of your homework who you worked with. That includes me as well. Just as you would cite a book from which you quoted or from which you used an idea, so must you cite the people you work with.

If a student is found committing academically dishonest acts in this class, those acts will be reported to the administration and sanctions may include, but are not limited to, a reduction in grade or even failure of the course.

Disabilities and Medical Conditions: If you have a documented disability that requires accommodation, please let me know. In order to ensure that your learning needs are appropriately met, you must provide documentation of your disability or medical condition to the Coordinator of Disability Services in Humanities 206-D, 867-6071. The Office of Disability Services will then provide me with a letter of verification of disability.

9 Assignments

MAS 261, F07 (tentative)
08/29 Introductions.
08/31 Read 12.1–12.2. 12.1: 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 16. 12.2: 2–10 even.
