

SYLLABUS FOR MA 293, FALL 2005

Professor: Maciej Szczesny
Office: MCS 236
Email: szczesny@math.bu.edu
Office Hours: M, W 4-5
Lecture: CAS 237, MWF 3-4
Discussion: CAS 225, M 2-3

Text: Norman L. Biggs, *Discrete Mathematics* (second edition), Oxford University Press, 2002.

S. Lipschutz and M. Lipson, *Probability* (second edition), Schaum outline series.

Course Web Page: <http://math.bu.edu/people/szczesny/Teaching/293Fall105/>

Homework: There will be weekly homework assigned in class. You will be asked to hand in a subset of the problems at the beginning of Monday's class. Late homework will not be accepted. However, your lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Quizzes: There will be a quiz at the beginning of each discussion section on the previous week's homework. The problems will closely follow those in the homework. No make-up quizzes will be given. However, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Important Dates: The last day to drop the course without a "W" is Oct. 11, and with a "W", Oct. 28.

Exams: There will be two in-class exams during the semester and a final exam at the end. The dates are as follows:

Exam I Friday, Oct. 7
Exam II Friday, Nov. 18
Final Exam: TBA

Note: No calculators, books, notes, or cellphones are allowed during exams/quizzes.

No make up exams will be given, with the exception of serious illness, in which case you will be required to provide a note from a physician.

Grading Policy:

Homework:	10 %
Quizzes:	20 %
In-class Exam I:	20 %
In-class Exam II:	20 %
Final:	30 %

The minimum final grades based on the above breakdown are guaranteed to be as follows: **A** 90-100 %, **B** 80-89, **C** 70-79, **D** 60-69.

Academic Honesty: You are encouraged to discuss homework problems with other students. However, your write-ups should ALWAYS be your own. If you are caught plagiarizing, you will be referred to the University Academic Standards Committee for disciplinary action.

Standards of Civilized Behavior: Lecture and discussion is a time devoted to learning. Activities which interfere with this process will not be tolerated. Please turn off your cell-phone before coming to class.

Overview: One of the main aims of this course is to teach you how to reason formally. We will therefore spend the first part learning how to write rigorous proofs, as well as the language in which these are written - set notation, basic logic, mathematical induction, etc. The second part deals with combinatorics, i.e. counting. The third and final part, taken from of the supplementary text, deals with basic probability through the language of random variables.