

traversal, . . . This is a long list, but you'll find that there are many connections between the topics.

How to do well in this course You should spend approximately **5–6 hours a week** on the course - studying your book and your lecture notes, thinking about the ideas and concepts and how they relate to each other, talking with some of your classmates about them (study groups are encouraged), and, most important, *doing your homework*. Not even the greatest genius can learn math by listening to it – you have to *do* it, and that's what the homework is for. If you are having trouble with a section of the course, the best remedy is to do even more problems than we assign – Matt and I will be happy to discuss these with you.

Not everything you need to know will be discussed in lecture, and not everything you need to know is in the book. The lecture and the book will reinforce each other. We'll cover a pretty large chunk of the book, which is itself pretty large; lectures and exercises should give you a good idea of what portions we mean to emphasize most, and what will be present on exams. *We will write exams assuming that you have completed the homework, and you should expect to see some variations of questions from the homework appearing on exams.*

In addition to the lecture you have once-a-week discussion section with a Teaching Assistant (TA). In this discussion section you can get your questions answered, go over problems, review, etc. Homework will be turned in and exams passed back in these sections.

Exercises Homework will be announced each Tuesday and due in discussion section the following week. Each week, we will choose a subset of problems to be graded; your grade will be a combination of your score on these selected problems, and the overall completeness of your homework. Homework is 25 percent of your grade, so be thorough! Late homework will not be accepted unless your TA has agreed to an extension *before the due date*. You are encouraged to form study groups with your classmates; things not clear to you may become obvious when you try to explain them to others or when you hear other points of view. Sometimes just verbalizing your mathematical thoughts can deepen your understanding. *It is acceptable, indeed desirable, to work on homework collaboratively; however, write-ups must be your own work and may not be identical with those of any of your classmates.*

Exams There will be **two in-class exams** during the semester, each worth 20 percent of your grade, and a final exam, on May 13, from 2:45 - 4:45 pm, worth 35 percent of your grade. Depending on the pace we keep in lecture, we may also have some in-class quizzes. All quizzes will be announced.

Grades will be distributed as follows: 25 percent homework, 40 percent midterm exams, 35 percent final exam. We will grade on a curve. In the past, the cutoffs have been approximately 93 for an A, 89 for an AB, 80 for a B, 70 for a C, 60 for a D.

Calculator Policy It is acceptable to use calculators while doing your homework, but in this genre of math they are seldom helpful; computations are to be exact. So an answer which has $\sqrt{2}$ in it is to be presented as such, not as 1.414. Calculators will not be permitted in

exams, and we will not give questions which require (or would be made substantially easier by) the use of calculators.

Attendance It is expected that each student will be present at all of the classes and discussions and will be an attentive class participant.

Office Hours Our office hours are listed on page 1. We encourage you to come, whether to discuss homework problems, topics you are particularly confused about, resources for learning more about topics you're particularly excited about or your general mathematical development. The only thing you should not do is skip class and then ask me to redeliver my lecture in office hour.

Note to McBurney Disability Resource Center students: Students of the Center who are recommended for some accommodation (e.g., extended time on exams) should contact the instructor about this no later than February 5, 2007.

Math 240 APPROXIMATE SCHEDULE - Spring 2007

Check the fixed exam schedule now so that if you have a unavoidable conflict you can drop the course.

Week of	Sections
January 22	1.1 – 1.5
January 29	1.6 – 1.7, 2.1 – 2.2
February 5	2.3 – 2.4, 11.1
February 12	11.2(in part), 3.1 – 3.3
February 19	3.4 – 3.6
Thursday, March 1, 2007	First in-class exam
February 26	3.7 – 3.8
March 5	4.1 – 4.3
March 12	4.4, 5.1, 5.3
March 19	5.4 – 5.5
March 26	6.1 – 6.2, 6.4
April 9	7.1 – 7.3, 7.5
Tuesday, April 10, 2007	Second in-class exam
April 16	8.1, 8.3 – 8.4
April 23	8.5, 9.1 – 9.2, 10.1
April 30	TBA
May 7	TBA
Sunday, 13 May, 2:45 - 4:45 pm	Final Exam