### MATH 265: Introduction to Mathematical Proofs

**Spring 2022 Syllabus** 

**Instructor:** Jill Faudree

Contact Details: Chapman 306B, jrfaudree@alaska.edu, 474-7385

Office Hours\*: MWF before class (10:30-11:30am) and R 11:30am-1:00pm and by appoint-

ment. Also, you are welcome to drop by.

**Textbook:** Book of Proof by Richard Hammack, 3rd Edition

(ISBN: 978-0-9894721-2-8 (paperback))

OR

the free online version

https://www.people.vcu.edu/~rhammack/BookOfProof/

**Lecture Hours:** MWF 11:45am-12:45pm Grue 405

Course Web Page: https://jrfaudree.github.io/ProofsSpring21.html

**Course Grades:** on Canvas

Midterm Dates\*: Wednesday February 23 and Wednesday March 30

**Final Exam:** Friday, April 29, 10:15am-12:15pm

**Prerequisites:** MATH 252 Calculus II with a grade of C- or better **OR** concurrent enrollment

in MATH 252 Calculus II

# **Course Overview and Learning Outcomes**

This course is an introduction to formal, rigorous mathematical proof. It is intended to give you an understanding of the logical framework and common techniques used to build proofs and to teach you how to construct and write your own.

A mathematical proof may have many forms but essentially all are governed by some established principles. There are explicit assumptions which are used to demonstrate that a stated conclusion is guaranteed. The demonstration of this guarantee uses accepted and explicitly stated rules of logical reasoning.

For many consumers of mathematics, the primary role of mathematics is as a tool for solving some other problem (from Physics, Economics, etc.). From this point of view, it is sufficiency if the mathematical process consistently appears to give a solution supported by observation or data. However, mathematics from the mathematicians' view generally requires proof. Indeed for most mathematicians proof is the defining property of the subject. No conjecture, however much empirical evidence supports it, becomes a theorem without proof.

In summary, this is the course that gives the insider's view of the subject.

#### **Course Mechanics**

Class meetings will be run as an interactive lecture. Sometimes I will lecture at the board, sometimes students will present their work. Everyday you will do work in class, sometimes individually and sometimes in groups. You should always bring paper and pencil to class.

**Attendance** is mandatory.

<sup>\*</sup>Note that official Office Hours and Midterm Dates may change over the semester. Any changes will be announced in class and on the course webpage.

Being present in class and being active in class are so important to student success that **class participation** is a portion of your grade. Acceptable class participation includes asking questions, attempting to answer questions, contributing to group work, and allowing others to contribute. You will get an easy A on this portion of your grade as a reward for being present, active, and engaged in the class meetings and for being respectful to the other members of the class.

**Homework** will be assigned weekly and turned in via an upload link in Canvas. The entire homework assignment will be checked to make sure you have attempted everything. Selected problems will be graded completely. Your written homework average will be calculated as (points earned)/(points possible).

A selection of homework problems will be written using the mathematical typesetting tool called LATEX.

There are many benefits to learning to use LATEX. It's easier to revise and edit your work. It encourages writing actual sentences since most people can type words faster than they can handwrite them. It will help you focus on the quality of your writing.

On the course webpage, you will find a link to resources for getting started with LATEX.

**Collaboration** with classmates to solve homework problems is encouraged. Talking with others about math is a great way to solidify knowledge and clarify points of confusion. **But each student should write up their solutions independently.** The line between collaboration and plagarism and/or cheating is crossed if one student gives another student a complete solution (on paper or electronically). If you receive significant help solving a problem, it is customary to make a note in your homework to give the person who helped you credit.

There will be two **midterms** during the semester and a comprehensive **final exam**. The two midterms are tentatively scheduled for Wednesday February 23 and Wednesday March 30. **The Final Exam will be Friday, April 29, 10:15am-12:15pm.** It is DMS policy that final exams cannot be given early or late.

Make-up Midterms will be given only for excused absences.

**Grades** will be calculated according to the rubric on the left. Letter grades will be assigned according to the scale on the right. This scale is a guarantee; the instructors reserve the right to lower the thresholds.

homework	25%
participation	5%
Test 1	22.5%
Test 2	22.5%
Final Exam	25%

# **Tutoring and Resources**

- The Math and Stat Lab, Chapman Building Room 305, offers tutors. See <a href="https://uaf.edu/dms/mathlab/">https://uaf.edu/dms/mathlab/</a> for schedules and availability.
- Free one-on-one (or small group) tutoring is available in Chapman Building Room 201. You must schedule an appointment; see https://uaf.edu/dms/mathlab/.

- Student Support Services offers free tutoring in many subjects to students who qualify for their program.
- ASUAF offers private tutoring for a small fee (based on student income).

#### **Rules and Policies**

# **Incomplete Grade**

Incomplete (I) will only be given in DMS courses in cases where the student has completed the majority (normally all but the last three weeks) of a course with a grade of C or better, but for personal reasons beyond his/her control has been unable to complete the course during the regular term. Negligence or indifference are not acceptable reasons for the granting of an incomplete grade.

#### **Late Withdrawals**

A withdrawal after the deadline (currently 9 weeks into the semester) from a DMS course will normally be granted only in cases where the student is performing satisfactorily (i.e., C or better) in a course, but has exceptional reasons, beyond his/her control, for being unable to complete the course. These exceptional reasons should be detailed in writing to the instructor, department head and dean.

## **No Early Final Examinations**

Final examinations for DMS courses shall not be held earlier than the date and time published in the official term schedule. Normally, a student will not be allowed to take a final exam early. Exceptions can be made by individual instructors, but should only be allowed in exceptional circumstances and in a manner which doesn't endanger the security of the exam.

# **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated. It is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and will be punished according to UAF procedures.

**COVID-19 statement:** Students should keep up-to-date on the university's policies, practices, and mandates related to COVID-19 by regularly checking this website: https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/coronavirus/uaf?authuser=0

Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.

**Student protections statement:** UAF embraces and grows a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion, and caring. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX). Faculty members are designated as responsible employees which means they are required to report sexual misconduct. Graduate teaching assistants do not share the same reporting obligations. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: https://catalog.uaf.edu/academics-regulations/students-rights-responsibilities/.

**Disability services statement:** I will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

# **Student Academic Support:**

• Speaking Center (907-474-5470, email: uaf-speakingcenter@alaska.edu, Gruening 507)

- Writing Center (907-474-5314, email: uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu, Gruening 8th floor)
- UAF Math Services, email: uafmathstatlab@gmail.com, Chapman Building (for math fee paying students only)
- Developmental Math Lab, Gruening 406
- The Debbie Moses Learning Center at CTC (907-455-2860, 604 Barnette St, Room 120, email: https://www.ctc.uaf.edu/student-services/student-success-center/)
- For more information and resources, please see the Academic Advising Resource List (https://www.uaf.edu/advising/lr/SKM\_364e19011717281.pdf)

#### **Student Resources:**

- Disability Services (907-474-5655, email: uaf-disability-services@alaska.edu, Whitaker 208)
- Student Health & Counseling [6 free counseling sessions] (907-474-7043, https://www.uaf.edu/chc/appointments.php, Whitaker 203)
- Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities (907-474-7317, email: uaf-studentrights@alaska.edu, Eielson 110)
- Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (ASUAF) or ASUAF Student Government (907-474-7355, email: asuaf.office@alaska.edu, Wood Center 119)

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UAF Department of Equity and Compliance 1760 Tanana Loop, 355 Duckering Building, Fairbanks, AK 99775 907-474-7300 email: uaf-deo@alaska.edu