

Chapter 1

Conclusion

So, that's it?

Justin Goodman

Yes, that is it. That is Discrete Mathematics. You did it, congratulations!

1.1 Closing Remarks

The fun does not stop here – there are many more topics in discrete mathematics! This book is geared towards students in an introductory proof course. One can also go arbitrarily deep in any topic listed in this book. Mathematics is beautiful in this sense – there is no endpoint. There will always be a bigger number. There will always be a more difficult unsolved problem in mathematics. There is no ending in sight, but this infinite journey is worth more than the finale.

1.2 Tips

Here is a compiled list of tips. There are tips for each topic related to taking a course corresponding to this book. Each list is in no particular order.

1.2.1 Studying

- Take advantage of the Spacing Effect – spread your studying out over time.
- Utilize the Pomodoro Technique. Repeat the following process: study for 25 minutes, take a 5 minute break, repeat 4 times, take a longer 15-30 minute break.
- Teach your peers about what you are studying – if you can teach someone a topic, then you understand that topic.

1.2.2 Assignments

- Start early.
- Work with others.
- Struggle until you understand.
- Seek help, not solutions.

1.2.3 Exams

- Get plenty of sleep before the exam. 8 hours of sleep with 2 hours of studying is significantly better than 2 hours of sleep with 8 hours of studying.
- Eat food, drink water, exercise, and use the bathroom before the exam. Avoid drugs.
- Be aware of each concept, even if you forgot to study it. If on the exam you come across something you are rusty with, then write down as much as you know about the problem.
- Write neatly.
- Often, your first instinct answer is the correct answer. Stay away from over-analyzing a question.
- During the exam when you have time, re-read each question and make sure you are actually answering the question.
- If you read a problem and the answer does not immediately jump out at you, or if you get stuck on a problem, mark it and move on. Sometimes other exam questions will give you the insight you need to go back and answer the marked problem.
- Relax.
- Plan out how you want to attack this exam.
- **Remember the big picture of life.**

1.3 Summary

- This is a long and difficult course
- Be proud of yourself
- You got this