

Course Syllabus
COMP 283-001 – Discrete Structures
Fall 2018

Meeting Place: SN 014
Meeting Time: 2 - 3:15 Tu Th

Instructor: Prof. David Plaisted
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Office Hours:

TA and LA assignments are not up to date

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Text: *Reasoning and Writing in the Mathematics Underlying Computation* , by Jack Snoeyink.

Prerequisites: MATH 231 (Calculus of Functions of One Variable - I) or MATH 241 (BioCalculus I)

Course Goals

- To learn the facts of the course
- To apply the algorithms and methods taught in the course
- To gain an intuition for the material, for example, what kind of statements can be expressed in first-order logic
- To become more familiar with formal proofs and their advantages

Grading: Homework	30%
Quizzes	1%
Midterm Exams	39%
Final Exam	30%

- Exams and Grading

There will be two mid-semester exams, a final, and probably 9 homework assignments. Exams are in class and are closed book and closed notes. The first exam will be Tuesday, September 25 and the second will be Thursday, November 1. The final exam is at 12 noon on Saturday, December 8. There may also be five or more pop quizzes. The grading algorithm will probably be 30 percent for the final exam, 19 percent for the first mid semester exam, 20 percent for the second one, one percent for all the quizzes put together, and 30 percent for homework. There may also be a few extra credit challenge problems.

- Homework

Homework is due at the beginning of class. If the homework is more than 5 minutes late, you will lose 10 percent of the points. If it is not handed in by the end of class, you lose 20 percent. If it is not handed in by the end of the day, you lose 30 percent. If it is not handed in the next day, you lose 40 percent or more. You may work on the homework in groups of at most three persons. Homework is VERY important for the grade and for your understanding of the material.

- Class Participation

Class participation and behavior in class can affect your grade, especially if it is on the borderline. Also, there are a few guidelines for behavior. If you have to leave class for a good reason, you don't need to wait until my back is turned. If you need to yawn, do it quietly. Try to enjoy class. Think of it as a course you chose, even if it is now a required course. It may help.

Students who do not come to class often, tend to get lower grades unless they have exceptional ability in abstract thinking.

- Course Web Page

The COMP 283 web page is at www.cs.unc.edu/~plaisted/comp283.

- Honor Code

You should be aware that the honor code, which prohibits the giving or receiving of unauthorized aid on exams and homework, is in effect.

- Students with disabilities

The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill facilitates the implementation of reasonable accommodations, including resources and services, for students with disabilities, chronic medical conditions, a temporary disability or pregnancy complications resulting in difficulties with accessing learning opportunities.

All accommodations are coordinated through the Accessibility Resources and Service Office. In the first instance please visit their website <http://accessibility.unc.edu>, call 919-962-8300 or email accessibility@unc.edu.

Please contact ARS as early in the semester as possible.