

# Math 3012, Applied Combinatorics

August 18, 2009

**Instructor:** Ernie Croot

**Class Meeting Time and Place:** TR 12:05-1:25, 249 Skiles.

**Textbook:** *Discrete and Combinatorial Mathematics*, by Ralph P. Grimaldi.

**Office Hours and Place:** Monday 2:00 - 3:00 and Wednesday 3:00 - 4:00, in 103 Skiles.

**Grade Calculation:** Your grade will be based on your performance on the homeworks, each of the two midterms, and then the final. Your grade will be computed according to the following weighting: 30% from homeworks, 20% from each of your two midterms, and 30% from the final exam. Your letter grade will be based on the usual 60-70-80-90 scale (90 and higher is an A, 80 to 90 a B, and so on).

On the exams, I will curve the grades to make the class median always turn out to be 75 or higher. By 'curve' I mean the following: say the course median pre-curve is 60. Then, I will add 15 points to everyone's score, which means that some people may have more than 100 percent in the class. If, on the other hand, the median, again pre-curve, is 80, then I will not subtract 5 points from everyone – I will leave everyone's grade as is (i.e. no curve).

**Homeworks:** I will collect homeworks every two weeks (the first one will be collected at the end of the third week, to give everyone some time to adjust their schedules). Typically, I will ask the grader to grade some problems for accuracy, and the rest for effort. This is why it is best to work all the

homeworks – if you leave some out, and they happen to be the ones graded for accuracy, your grade will suffer.

**Missed Exams and Homeworks:** If you miss a midterm, I will not give you a makeup. Instead, I will work out some fair way to re-weight your grade, based on the performance on your other exams. If you miss the final, however, and present a valid excuse, I will likely give you a makeup final exam.

In either case, you must present a documented reason for missing the exam if you expect to have a grade on another test to substitute. Doctor's notes and funeral notices are good examples of the documentation I am looking for.

**Honor Code:** Please review the Georgia Tech honor code. All students are expected to comply with the Georgia Tech Honor Code. Any evidence of cheating or other violations of the Honor Code will be reported (in fact, I did this last year, and I can tell you that it is a long, unpleasant process for the accused and accuser alike).