

MATH 368: TOPICS IN GRAPH THEORY AND COMBINATORICS
FALL 2013

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Course Information. Lectures TTH 1-2:15 HBH 427

Required Textbook. *Combinatorics and Graph Theory* (Second Edition) by Harris, Hirst and Mossinghoff.

Course Description. This class will give an introduction to graph theory and combinatorics. Topics will include trees, planarity, and colorings in graph theory, and assorted topics in enumerative combinatorics. If time permits, we will cover more challenging topics like Ramsey Theory, Polya's Theory of Counting or applications.

Grades. Your grade will be determined by the following:

Homework	30%	(lowest homework grade dropped)
Midterm I	20%	
Midterm II	20%	
Final Exam	30%	(cumulative)

The instructor reserves the right to offer challenge problems for extra-credit.

Homework. Homework will be assigned Thursdays and will be due the following Thursday in class, at the beginning of class, unless otherwise stated. You are encouraged to work together on homework, but the work that you submit must be your own. You are also encouraged to visit instructor and TA office hours if you need assistance with homework assignments. Some use of the internet to study is acceptable, however, searching online for explicit answers to homework problems is not acceptable.

No late homework will be excepted. Early homework is fine. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Exams. Midterms will be unproctored and held in class. The tentative midterm schedule is as follows, and is subject to change.

Midterm I October 8
Midterm II November 19

Calculators, computing devices, notes and books are prohibited on midterms. Any exceptional materials to be permitted during midterm exams will be specified and made explicit by the instructor.

The format of the final will most likely be a take-home exam. It will be timed, closed book, and students are not to consult any other people, notes or sources during the examination. Detailed instructions will be distributed with the exam, and of course, students are expected to abide by the Honor Code on the final.

Students with university recognized exam conflicts must notify me as soon as possible to reschedule midterms and final exams. Make-up exams will only be permitted in extenuating circumstances, and rescheduled exams will be only be conducted after the regularly scheduled exams. The final exam time frame will be scheduled by the Office of the Registrar late in the semester. An early final will **not** be given to accommodate travel plans.

Academic Integrity. Students are expected to abide by the Rice Honor Code on all assignments and exams.

Homework and exams will involve some amount of proof-writing. All assignments should be written carefully, clearly and with complete exposition. For full credit you must justify your work.

OWL-Space. Announcements, schedule changes, homework assignments, reading assignments and grades will usually be posted to OWL-Space. Add yourself to OWL-Space with a NetID and check regularly.

Extra-credit problems and some information may only be available during class. Despite the availability of information on OWL-Space, attendance is expected for this course.

Students with disabilities. Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first week of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities need to also contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Center.

Visit <http://students.rice.edu/students/Disability.asp> for more information.

Disclaimer. The instructor reserves the right to update the expectations outlined in this syllabus. Any modifications will be announced in class before changes are made to the syllabus.