

Math 166 – Fall 2008

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Class time: MWF 8 – 8:50 am **Location:** Heldenfels 107
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Required text: *Applied Finite Mathematics* by Tomastik and Epstein. This textbook may be purchased online at <http://tamumath.ichaptersbuy.com>.

Catalog Title and Description: (CREDIT 3.0) *Topics in Contemporary Mathematics II*. Finite mathematics, matrices, probability and applications. Prerequisites: high school algebra I and II and geometry. **Credit will not be given for more than one of MATH 141 and MATH 166.**

Course topics and schedule: The course schedule and learning objectives are available online at <http://calclab.math.tamu.edu/docs/math166/syllabus/currentsched.html>

Attendance: The easiest way to help insure your success in this class is to make it to class every day. It is very hard to catch up if you fall behind. Attendance will help keep you thinking about the material, keep you informed of course deadlines, and motivate you to complete homework.

Email policy: Check your University email daily. You are responsible for information I send out by email. Be advised that because of privacy rights, I cannot discuss grades via email or over the phone.

Grading policy: Grades will be calculated according to the following percentages:

Average of 3 exams	50%	A = 90-100%
Quizzes and Homework	25%	B = 80-89%
Comprehensive Final Exam	25%	C = 70-79%
		D = 60-69%
		F = below 60%

Note: Any questions regarding grading/scoring must be made within one week of the return of the exam or quiz or no change in the grade will be made.

Make-up Policy: Please try to avoid putting yourself in a position of needing a make-up. Make-ups are not given unless written evidence of an official University excused absence is provided in a timely manner. (See *University Student Rules*.) According to Section 7.3 of the *University Student Rules*, for an absence to be considered excused,

the student must notify his or her instructor in writing (acknowledged email message is acceptable) prior to the date of the absence if such notice is feasible. In cases where advance notification is not feasible (e.g. accident or emergency) the student must provide notification by the end of the second working day after the absence. This notification should include an explanation of why notice could not be sent prior to the class.

If no such notice is given, the right to a make-up is forfeited. In addition (and also in accordance with *University Student Rules*), a **written** excuse must be presented upon return to class. Specifically, in the case of illness or injury, students are required to obtain a confirmation note from a health care professional affirming the date and time of a medical office visit regarding the illness or injury. An explanatory statement for absence from class form is not sufficient written documentation for an excused absence.

Exams: There will be three in-class exams and a comprehensive final, scheduled as shown below. Test grades are not curved.

Exam Schedule	Final Exam
Exam 1: Friday, Sept. 19	Friday, December 5
Exam 2: Friday, Oct. 17	10 am - noon
Exam 3: Friday, Nov. 14	

Quizzes and graded homework: Announced and unannounced quizzes will be given throughout the semester during class; they will be based on the homework. Each quiz will be graded on a 10-point scale, and *no make up quizzes will be given without a written verification of a University excused absence*. Some graded homework assignments and quizzes will be completed online at <http://webassign.net>; the most recent score, not the highest score, is the one I will count. Deadlines for online assignments will be clearly stated on the homework website, and I will announce them in class.

Suggested homework: A list of suggested homework problems from your textbook can be found on my webpage. These problems will not be collected for a grade, but a thorough understanding of them is essential for doing well in the course.

Calculators: The TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator is **required** for this course. Use of any other calculator is not allowed, and the use of other calculators will not be discussed in class. **Sharing calculators during quizzes or exams is not allowed. It is an act of scholastic dishonesty.** The only programs you will be allowed to have on your calculator are those (if any) that you are given in class. All other programs must be erased from your calculator – no exceptions.

Scholastic Dishonesty: You are encouraged to work together on the suggested homework problems, but do not copy another student's work. Always abide by the Aggie Code of Honor.

AGGIE HONOR CODE:

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do”

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System.

For additional information please visit: <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor/>

Keep in mind that copying work done by others, either in class or out of class, is an act of scholastic dishonesty and will be prosecuted to the full extent allowed by University policy. Storing formulas or unauthorized programs in your calculator is also an act of scholastic dishonesty and will not be tolerated. Using or having an unapproved program on any formulas stored in your calculator during an exam will result in a zero on the exam.

Extra help: Please feel free to ask questions in class, to come by my office hours, or to make an appointment to see me. I am happy to see you and help you out. The Mathematics Department also offers help sessions, week-in-review sessions and streaming videos of the course. The help sessions begin the second week of class and have drop in hours where you can get help on your homework and other problems. The week-in-review sessions will also start during the second week of class. Heather Ramsey, another Math 166 instructor, will be leading the review sessions.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities, in Cain Hall or call 845-1637.

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Thanks: This handout is based on and partially copied from one written by Heather Ramsey. Thank you, Heather, for the use of your materials.

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