

**MA 114: Intro to Finite Mathematics with Applications  
Spring 2007  
North Carolina State University**

**Instructor:** Jeb Collins  
**Office:** 2806 Hillsborough St., Suite 201  
**Office hours:** M 3:00-5:00 W 3:00-4:00  
**Grad Assistant office:** HA 244  
**Grad Assistant office hours:** Tues 3:00-4:00  
**Email:** jbcoll2@ncsu.edu  
**Class meets:** M W 6:00-7:15pm in HA207

**Textbook:** *Topics in Finite Mathematics*

**Goals:** Elementary matrix algebra including arithmetic operations, inverses, and systems of equations; introduction to linear programming including simplex method; sets and counting techniques, elementary probability including conditional probability; Markov chains; applications in the behavioral, managerial and biological sciences. Computer use for completion of assignments.

**Attendance:** As per departmental policy, all 100 level courses require a record of attendance. Hence, attendance is expected for every minute of scheduled class time. Absences may be excused on test dates, but must result from a university-approved excuse and accompanied by proper documentation (doctor's note, etc.). Tardies are taken into account, but only up to 15 minutes following the start of class times. 4 tardies count as one absence. Any student who is not an active class participant the full class time (doing other work in class, socializing, sleeping, listening to iPod, leaving class, etc.) is recorded as absent. It is in your best interest to routinely attend class on time.

Any student with 3 or fewer absences (excused or unexcused) may have their final exam grade replace their one lowest test grade.

**Expectations:** In class I expect you to pay attention and participate. Leave all distractions such as cell phones, newspapers, MP3 players or work for other classes in you backpack or at home. For every class please bring your book, a pencil or pen, paper for notes, and a calculator.

**Grading:** The final grade is determined by 60% Major test average, 25% Final exam, and 15% Webassign and quizzes. Webassign problems make up a large portion of your final grade, so do not fall behind or skip any of these. There is no make-up available for missed assignments, so be sure to keep on top of the due dates for each Webassign assignment. To make up for this an extra 10 points will be added onto your average Webassign grade before computing your final grade. To purchase your Webassign access code go to **<http://webassign.ncsu.edu>**. The final letter grade will abide by the NCSU standard:

100-98 A+ 92-97.99 A 90-91.99 A-  
88-89.99 B+ 82-87.99 B 80-81.99 B-  
78-79.99 C+ 72-77.99 C 70-71.99 C-  
68-69.99 D+ 62-67.99 D 60-61.99 D-  
0-59.99 F

**Quizzes:** Quizzes will be given throughout the semester at the end of class to determine how well you are understanding the subject matter. **There will be no make-ups for quizzes.** However, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the semester to determine the quiz average.

**Exams:** The exam dates are predetermined and will take place on the following days:

Exam 1: January 29  
Exam 2: February 21  
Exam 3: March 21  
Exam 4: April 18  
Final Exam: April 30, 6:00-9:00pm

Makeups for exams are only given if there is a legitimate excuse or illness. In this case, proper documentation is needed, and the makeup will only be given during my office hours. Please note **no exam grades will be dropped.**

Graphing calculators will be allowed on exams. However, most exams are designed so that no calculator is needed, and for the problems where a calculator is needed, only simple calculations will be required. Cheating of any form is completely unacceptable, and will be dealt with without leniency. You are encouraged to read the University's academic integrity guidelines.

**Suggestions:** Mathematics is not a subject that you can passively learn. Participate as much as possible in class and do as many textbook problems as you can. You may feel that a concept is confusing, but will find that actually working through the corresponding problems will make it much more clear. I encourage you to discuss concepts among your classmates, and ask questions in class about anything that may seem unclear. To help in this I will periodically be having you come up to the board and do homework problems. This will help bring out any questions the class may have on a particular problem. I also encourage you to **read** the book. This book is particularly well written and is good at explaining concepts. I am also available during office hours for any questions you have, so take advantage of this. If you put a proper amount of time into this class, you will do well.

**Miscellaneous:** Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with Disability Services for Students at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653.