Mathematics 2200H – Mathematical Reasoning

TRENT UNIVERSITY, Fall 2020

Instructor

Department of Mathematics

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Prerequisite

MATH 1120H or 1350H.

Text

A Gentle Introduction to the Art of Mathematics, Version 3.1, by Joseph Fields. The text is freely distributable under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, version 1.3, and may be downloaded from https://giam.southernct.edu/GIAM/, or locally from Blackboard as well as the MATH 2200H archive page. There will also be a few handouts augmenting the text distributed at various times.

Meetings – take the timetable with a grain of salt:

Lectures will be pre-recorded and posted to Blackboard. The lecture times given in the timetable may be used for other purposes, such as office hours.

Seminars will occur at the times given in the timetable – Wednesday 14:00-14:50 (F01) and 15:00-15:50 (F02) – via teleconferencing (probably Zoom) and will focus on answering questions about the material and the assignments. (These will not be recorded.)

Marking Scheme

There will be at least eleven weekly assignments and a take-home final examination. The best ten assignments will each count for 6.5% of the final mark and the final exam will count for the remaining 35%. Note that more 25% of the course marks will be obtained by the final date (Tuesday, 10 November) to withdraw from Fall half-courses without academic penalty. Assignments will be accepted after the due date only at the instructor's sole discretion; students unable to hand them in on time for reasons beyond their control should contact the instructor as soon as possible.

This scheme may be modified in *exceptional* circumstances, such as a lengthy absence due to illness. Any such modification will require the agreement of both the student and the instructor.

Learning Outcomes

This course is an introduction to the basics of handling abstractions and doing mathematical proofs while acquiring familiarity with a number of basic concepts, drawn from logic, set theory, number theory, and combinatorics, which are used in many mathematical fields. Successful students finishing the course should be able to solve problems using the methods developed in the course, read and write mathematics effectively using appropriate notation, and formulate and communicate logically correct proofs.

Schedule

Please note that where the material covered is concerned this schedule is a polite fiction: no lesson plan survives contact with actual students unchanged!

Week 0. (10-11 September) Introduction, analyzing problems. Classes begin Thursday, 5 September.

Week 1. (14–18 September) Problem-solving strategies, logic. Assignment #1 due on Friday, 18 September.

Week 2. (21–25 September) Propositional logic, deductions. Assignment #2 due on Friday, 25 September. Week 3. (28 September – 2 October) Some basic set theory, functions, relations. Assignment #3 due on Friday, 2 October.

Week 4. (5–9 October) First-order logic: relations and quantifiers. Assignment #4 due on Friday, 9 October.

Week 5. (12-16 October) Sets, relations, and functions. Assignment #5 due on Friday, 16 October.

Week 6. (19–23 October) Direct and indirect proof techniques. Assignment #6 due on Friday, 23 October. University closed on Monday, 12 October, for Thanksgiving Day.

Fall Reading Week. (26-30 October) Enjoy!

Week 7. (2–6 November) Equivalence relations, definition of integers and rationals. Assignment #7 due on Friday, 6 November.

Week 8. (9–13 November.) Real and complex numbers. Assignment #8 due on Friday, 13 November. The last date to withdraw from Fall courses is Tuesday, 10 November.

Week 9. (16–20 November) Mathematical induction, division and Euclidean algorithms. Assignment #9 due on Friday, 20 November.

Week 10. (23–27 November) Cardinality of sets. Assignment #10 due on Friday, 272 November.

Week 11. (30 November – 4 December) Schröder-Bernstein Theorem. Assignment #11 due and takehome final examination distributed on Friday, 4 December.

Week 12. (7-9 December) Catch-up and clean-up. Wednesday, 9 December, is the last day of classes.

Fall Examination Period. (10–22 December) Take-home final examination due on Friday, 18 December.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty, which includes plagiarism and cheating, is an extremely serious academic offence and carries penalties varying from a 0 grade on an assignment to expulsion from the University. Definitions, penalties, and procedures for dealing with plagiarism and cheating are set out in Trent University's Academic Integrity Policy. You have a responsibility to educate yourself – unfamiliarity with the policy is not an excuse. You are strongly encouraged to visit Trent's Academic Integrity website to learn more – www.trentu.ca/academicintegrity

For clarity, the following guidelines will apply in MATH 2200H:

You are permitted and encouraged to work with others and ask anyone willing (especially the instructor!) for explanations, hints, and suggestions for the assignments, and to consult whatever sources you wish. However, all work submitted for credit must be written up entirely by yourself, giving due credit to all the sources of help and information that you actually used. There will be greater restrictions on the take-home final examination, which will be spelled out on the exam.

Access to Instruction

It is Trent University's intent to create an inclusive learning environment. If a student has a disability and/or health consideration and feels that he/she may need accommodations to succeed in this course, the student should contact the Student Accessibility Services Office (SAS), Blackburn Hall Suite 132, 705 748-1281, sas@trentu.ca. For Trent University in Oshawa Student Accessibility Services Office contact 905 435-5102, ext. 5024. Complete text can be found under Access to Instruction in the Academic Calendar.

Archive Page

MATH 2200H has an archive page with links to assignments, exams, and various handouts from previous iterations of the course at: http://euclid.trentu.ca/math/sb/2200H Material from the current iteration of the course will be archived on this page as well from time to time. Last modified 2020-09-03.