

Carthage Mathematics Department

Course Summary for Math 1240 Discrete Structures

1. Credits: 4 cr.
2. Semesters Offered: J-term, Spring
3. Text(s): *Notebook for Discrete Structures* by Snively, or *Book of Proof* by Hammack
4. Topics Covered:
 - a. Symbolic Logic and Truth Tables
 - b. Quantified statements and quantifiers
 - c. Mathematical Proofs
 - i. Direct
 - ii. Indirect
 - iii. Induction
 - d. Set Theory
 - e. Basic Combinatorics
 - f. Graph Theory
 - g. Number Theory
 - h. Functions
5. Skills Enhanced:
 - a. Mathematical Investigation, insight into mathematics research
 - b. Logical thinking and argumentation
 - c. Proof writing
6. Sample Syllabus: (Book of Proof)
 - a. Chapters 1-10, 12
 - b. Additional handout on number theory if necessary
7. Miscellanea
 - a. Many other topics are often covered, including proofs in symbolic logic, voting theory, apportionment, discrete dynamical systems, polyominoes and tiling, board games.
 - b. A mini research project is sometimes included as part of this course.
8. Course Goals: By the end of the course, students should be able to do the following.
 - a. Demonstrate proficiency with logical structures, including logical operators and quantifiers.
 - i. Assessment: The final exam will include at least one problem requiring facility with logical structures.
 - b. Write a mathematical proof using the methods of direct and indirect proof
 - i. Assessment: The final exam will include problems wherein the student must demonstrate proficiency in writing mathematical proofs.
 - ii. Assessment: The final exam will include a problem requiring an indirect proof.
 - c. Write a proof using mathematical induction.
 - i. Assessment: The final exam will include a problem requiring mathematical induction
 - d. Demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the course content.
 - i. Assessment: Exams, quizzes and homework. Sufficient knowledge is required to obtain a passing grade. The knowledge must be demonstrated on homework and exams.