Syllabus   # Math 368. Topics in Combinatorics.   **Fall 2012.**

Location:	Herman Brown 427
Time:	Tue/Thu 1:00-2:15pm

Instructor:	Michael Boshernitzan michael-at-rice-dot-edu ext. 5209
Office:	Herman Brown 442,
Office Hours:	Tuesday 3:00-4:00pm, or by appointment

Teaching Assistant:	Paul Munger pem1-at-rice-dot-edu

Class Webpage:	`draggo.com/mbrice`, or
	`math.rice.edu/~michael` (go to "Fall 2012. Teaching" in the end of the page).

Course description

Study of combinatorics and discrete mathematics. Topics to be covered include basics of graph theory, Ramsey theory, combinatorial enumeration and combinatorial games. The course will have an emphasis on careful proof writing and clear exposition.

Textbook

Combinatorics and Graph Theory (2nd edition), Springer 2008. (Required).
Authors: J. M. Harris, J. L. Hirst, , M. Mossinghoff.
   The course will cover most of Chapter 1 and some of the material in Chapter 2.

Grading

The final grade will consist of homework (60%), two exams (40%=2×20%) and extra credit (for optional challenge problems). There will be no final exam. The dates of two exams will be determined later. Students will be offered optional challenge problems for earning extra credit.

Homework

Homeworks will be assigned every **Wednesday** and will be due the following **Wednesday** in class (or before class) unless otherwise stated. You may work together on the homework, but write up your solutions independently. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Homework solutions must be legible. Late homeworks will not be graded.

Disability Support

It is the policy of Rice University that any student with a disability receive fair and equal treatment in this course. If you have a documented disability that requires academic adjustments or accommodations, please speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should also contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Centre.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to comply with Rice University's standards for academic integrity.

Disclaimer statement

The information contained in the course syllabus may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.