

Math 340, Discrete Mathematics, Fall 2017

Course Information

Instructor:	Henry Towsner
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Office:	4N51
Office Hours:	Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30; Wednesdays, 10:30-12:30
Office Phone:	(215) 898-8474
Course Website:	http://www.math.upenn.edu/~htowsner/math340/
Midterm Exam:	Tuesday, 9/26
Writing Project:	Due Thursday, 11/21

Discussion Forum: <http://piazza.com/upenn/fall2017/math340>

Textbook

The textbook for this class is Tucker, *Applied Combinatorics*, 6th ed, 2012.

Grades

Grades will be calculated out of 450 points:

- 80 points: homeworks (each homework will be worth 10 points, with the lowest two not counted)
- 20 points: daily discussions (1 point per day; there are about 24 or so total classes, so there are a few chances to miss one)
- 100 points: midterm
- 100 points: written project
- 150 points: final exm

Reading and Writing

Before every class, you will be expected to read the relevant part of the textbook and to write a related contribution in the online discussion on our Piazza forum.

Your contribution could be:

- A question about part of the material you don't understand.
- A question related to the material that isn't answered

A contribution to the discussion can be a question about something, an answer to someone else's question, or an observation. The important standard is that it should

A contribution can be a question, an answer to another student's question, an observation (for example, "This topic reminds of the way we did this thing two weeks ago", or, "I found this easier after I realized that..."), or even a link to a helpful resources (for example, "this website has a great explanation" or "I found a video that's way clearer than Professor Towsner's")

Homework

Homework will usually be assigned on Thursday and will be due by the end of class the following Thursday. No late homework will be accepted. The two lowest homework scores will be dropped. Homework must be stapled and clearly labelled with your name. Students are encouraged to collaborate on homework assignments. Collaboration means working together to frame problems, devise approaches, and compare results. The final work, however, must be the work of the individual student, indicating that you alone prepared the work and understand the material. This means you must write up solutions independently.

Exams

There will be one midterm given in class and a final exam. You will be allowed to bring *one* 3" x5" notecard to each exam. You may write whatever you want (on both sides) of the notecard.

Writing Project

In place of a second midterm, there will a substantive research and writing project. Details are on the class website.

Corrections

If you believe there is a mistake on any grading, you have *two weeks* from when the item is handed back to bring it to my attention.

Special Accommodations

If you have a documented disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact Student Disabilities Services as soon as possible, and within the first two weeks of the course.