# Math 2020 Solving Discrete Problems Spring 2007 T Th 12:10 - 1:30 Lockett 134

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	Class Web Site: http://www.math.lsu.edu/~adkins/m2020.html
Office Hours:	1:40 - 2:30 P.M. T Th
	Other times by appointment

#### Text

Edward A. Bender and S. Gill Williamson. A Short Course in Discrete Mathematics, Dover Publications, 2005. ISBN 0-486-43946-1

This book can be purchased from Amazon.com or directly from Dover Publications. Additionally, it can be downloaded for free from the author's website:

http://math.ucsd.edu/~ebender/DiscreteText1/index.html

### **Course Description**

This is a "bridge" or "transition to higher mathematics" course where the purpose is to provide a venue that emphasizes understanding of mathematical statements, clarity of mathematical thought and clear and precise communication of mathematical ideas. Since it is difficult to learn to communicate ideas in a vacuum, we will choose a few concrete topics from among those subjects listed in the course catalog: logic, counting, discrete probability, graph theory, and number theory. The goal will be understanding and communication, not memorization and computational algorithms.

#### **Syllabus**

We will cover most of the text, with the exception of Unit BF Section 2 and Unit IS, Sections 2 and 3.

# Examinations

There will be 3 in-class exams and a 2-hour final examination. Exam dates are:

Exam I	February 13
Exam II	March 20
Exam III	April 26
Final Exam	May 9 (Wednesday) 5:30 - 7:30 PM

### Homework

The homework assignments and any supplementary materials for the course will be posted on the class website (http://www.math.lsu.edu/~adkins/m2020.html). You should check this website regularly for the assignments and any supplementary materials. There will be approximately 10 homework assignments, generally due the Thursday of each week, except for the weeks when there is an exam. The assigned homework problems will be collected and a representative sample of the exercises from each assignment will be graded. You should not be surprised to find assigned homework problems, or small modifications of assigned problems, appearing on the exams.

# Grade

Your course grade will be weighted among the in-class exams, final exam, and homework as follows:

Homework	100 Points
Exam I	100 Points
Exam II	100 Points
Exam II	100 Points
Final Exam	150 Points

Each exam will be assigned an individual grade curve, and the homework will be assigned a cumulative grade curve for the entire semester. Before computing the homework grade, approximately 10% of the graded problems with the lowest scores will be deleted. The final grade divisions (between A and B, B and C, etc.) will be obtained by adding the corresponding dividing points for all the exams and homework grade curves.