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Instructor Information

About the Instructor

My name is Karina Cho. Please call me Dr. or Prof. Cho!

Pronouns: they/them/theirs



Instructor Email

chokarina@deanza.edu

This is the best way to get in contact with me. I will try to respond to emails within 1 business day, so give me up to 24 hours to respond during the school week before re-emailing. Please include a relevant subject line including the course number (e.g. "Math 22: Missing Class" or "Math 1B 09: Grading Error") and a sign off with your name (so that I know how to address you in my reply).

Student Hours (aka Office Hours)

- 1:30-2:30 PM at the [Physical Sciences and Technology Village](#) (Room S 55)
- 9-11 AM Friday on [Zoom](#)

Come talk to me about any questions, concerns, or confusions you have with the course content or anything else related to the course; I want to talk with you! Feel free to invite a friend to come with you, especially if you are facing similar issues. This is a great place to work on homework!

What you can expect from me

- Trust and respect for every person in this class.
- A commitment to antiracism, disability justice, and creating a healthy, collaborative learning environment for all.
 - To me, this entails that I will assume that we will work together towards your learning, not against one another.
 - I understand that not all disabilities are visible and that [nearly half](#) of disabled students do not register to get support from their institution's disability support office.
 - If there is something I can do as an instructor to better accommodate you, please contact me!
- A desire for your well-being and success in this course and beyond.

Course Information

Location and meeting times

11:00AM-1:15PM Tuesday and Thursday

Room LCW16 (Learning Center West Building, which is connected to the Library. Our room is downstairs)

Textbook

There is no required reading beyond what we cover during class, although I will reference the following textbooks in preparing the course material:

- [*Discrete Mathematics: An Open Introduction*](#) by Oscar Levin
 - A free, online textbook which has checkable practice problems at the bottom of each section
- *Discrete Mathematics: An Introduction to Mathematical Reasoning*, Brief Edition by Susanna Epp

What You'll Do

In order to build understanding of the course material, you will practice doing mathematics in a variety of different ways, including group work and individual work. Here is a summary of what you will do:

- Class
 - Listen to mini lectures given by me
 - Work collaboratively on problem solving activities with your peers
 - Discuss problems as a class
- Problem Sets
 - Due roughly once a week on Canvas
 - Graded based on completion (5 points) and overall written quality/correctness (5 points)

- Work on problems related to course content we discuss in class
- Practice writing and clearly communicating mathematics
- Discuss these with your peers or me during student hours
- Exams (In class)
 - Two midterms and a cumulative final
 - Demonstrate your understanding of course material through solving problems (you will work individually on these)
- Project
 - In lieu of a third midterm, there will be an open-ended project that will be collected towards the end of the quarter

I recommend starting on problem sets early in the week so that you can ask questions during [student hours](#) and talk with peers if you find yourself getting stuck.

Class Time

During class, we will do many things to support your learning and practice of mathematics, including mini-lectures, small group activities, and discussions. I strongly encourage you to attend class as much as possible since class time is your opportunity to try out new skills and engage with your peers, which has been shown to be an [effective](#) way to learn mathematics.

Your health and wellbeing are of utmost importance. You are welcome and encouraged to wear a mask to protect your class community, especially if you are sick. Let me know if you are unable to attend class for any reason.

Community Agreements

During the first class, we will add* to the following set of expectations for norms that we will uphold during class.

- There are no silly questions
- Recognize different communication styles
- Mistakes are okay and expected

* indicates class norms proposed by students on the first day of class

Canvas

- Course content (assignments, class notes, etc.) will be organized by week in Modules
- Check Canvas multiple times per week to ensure that you are keeping up with assignment due dates

Assessment Information

Grading System

- **Problem Sets: 20%**

- Once a week, there will be problems where you will write up solutions by hand and submit them to Canvas as a pdf
 - All submissions must be **handwritten** (either on a digital tablet or on paper and scanned to a single pdf) to be accepted. If you write on paper, I recommend using a free phone scanning app (e.g. genius scan) to turn photos of your work into a pdf.
 - 10 points total
 - 5 points for overall completeness, formatting, and legibility
 - 5: all problems are attempted with legible work shown for each problem, problems clearly labeled by number and final answers boxed.
 - 0-4: work may not be legible or some problems are not attempted
 - A few problems will be randomly graded for their written quality like they would be on an exam
 - 5: all graded problems demonstrate full understanding with a clearly written process
 - 3-4: Some mistakes, insufficient work shown, or the process is not fully explained
 - 0-2: Significant errors or lack of work shown
- **Classroom citizenship: 5%**
 - Attendance will be taken occasionally throughout the quarter, and you will get 100% for regularly showing up and meeting classroom expectations (being respectful, participating in group problem-solving or other class activities)
 - If you are unable to attend class due to illness or emergency, let me know by email beforehand (you do not need to explain the reason) and you may be excused
 - If you have excessive unexcused absences, this grade category will be left blank. This means it will not affect your grade, and the other grade categories will be worth slightly more to compensate.
 - You may be awarded extra credit for exceptional positive contributions to the classroom community, for a maximum of 110% in this grade category
- **Midterms: 40% (2 total)**
 - In-class exams (roughly 60 minutes) based on the content covered in class and on the homeworks
 - You may use 1 page of handwritten notes (front and back)
 - Please use the restroom before exams. If you must leave the room during the exam, you may not be permitted to continue the exam.
- **Project: 15%**
 - Assignment description [here](#) (this is a work-in-progress, so some details are subject to change)
- **Final: 20%**
 - The final will be similar in structure to the midterms, although you will have 2 hours instead

- You may use the same resources as allowed for midterms

Letter grade scale:

A+	97+
A	91-97%
A-	89-91%
B+	87-89%
B	81-87%
B-	79-81%
C+	77-79%
C	70-77%
D	60-70%
F	Below 60%

Unless otherwise stated, each graded midterm/final exam problem will be considered on a 5 point scale:

5	Demonstrate full understanding with a clearly written process, slight computational error may be allowed when the written quality of the solution indicates a solid grasp of the problem
4	Demonstrate good but not full understanding of the problem (some steps may not be fully explained), minor computational errors allowed
3	Demonstrate partial understanding, but needs improvement
0-2	The work needs significant improvement or is missing

Note that you can demonstrate understanding by writing down what you know, even if it's not fully correct, for partial credit!

If you ever want to talk about your grade or progress in the class, I am happy to discuss that with you during student hours!

Extension Policy

- Problem Sets
 - I will accept late work for partial credit (if you have a reason why you cannot submit the work on time, please communicate this with me for an exemption)
 - If the submission is under 24 hours late, you can still get full credit
 - Up to 80% if the assignment is more than 24 hours late
 - A score of 0 will be applied for late work until I can grade the submission

- It is important to be able to do all homework problems independently in order to prepare for the exams.

Assessment Schedule

Here is a rough schedule, which is subject to change based on the pace of our class.

Problem Set Due every Tuesday 11:59 pm starting Week 2

Midterm dates: 10/20, 11/17

Final Exam: Tuesday 12/8 from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Week of 9/21						
Week of 9/28		PS 1 Due				
Week of 10/5		PS 2 Due				
Week of 10/12		PS 3 Due				
Week of 10/19		PS 4 Due / Midterm 1				
Week of 10/26		PS 5 Due				
Week of 11/2		PS 6 Due				
Week of 11/9		PS 7 Due				
Week of 11/16		PS 8 Due / Midterm 2				
Week of 11/23		PS 9 Due		No Class		
Week of 11/30		Project Due				
Week of 12/7		Final 11:30-1:30				

Problem Sets

Problems based on what we covered in class that week. I encourage you to work collaboratively with your peers on these. If you work with other people or consult resources other than your textbook, please cite them on the problem set (e.g. "I collaborated with [names] and looked at [website or other educational resource] in preparing this problem set"). Any work you submit should be written by yourself in your own words.

I strongly recommend starting these early in the week so that you have time to work on all of the problems and discuss with your peers. Submit these to Canvas.

Midterms

These are 50 minute in-class tests that we will have every few weeks (see schedule). You will work individually on these and are allowed to use 1 page of handwritten notes (front and back). These are designed to check your understanding of course content, and the problems will be similar to ones that you have encountered on assignments and in class. You will not need a calculator to do these, but you may be permitted to use a scientific (non graphing or CAS) calculator. There are no retakes allowed. If you cannot take a midterm at the scheduled time, please let me know so that we can arrange another time for you to take it.

Final

The final exam will be similar in structure to the midterms but will be 2 hours in length. You will also be allowed to use 1 page of handwritten notes (front and back). It is scheduled for **Tuesday 12/8 from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM**. The location will be in our regular classroom.

Additional Policies and Resources

Disability Information

If you have a disability and would like an accommodation for this class, please contact me privately so that we can work together to make this class accessible for you! Please also contact the [Disability Support Programs and Services](#) for information or questions regarding accommodation.

Academic Integrity

Part of being a member of a classroom community is upholding academic integrity. In this class, this means that submitted work must be fully written and understood by the person who submitted it. You are encouraged to work with peers on problem sets as long as you are not simply copying someone else's work. Your explanations should be written in your own words. If you refer to any resource other than your textbook, including the internet or AI, you should cite those sources. De Anza College's statement on academic integrity can be found [here](#).

Academic integrity on exams includes the following:

- Demonstrating understanding of the work written on your exam (correct answers must be accompanied by written work that explains the conclusion, unless specified otherwise)
- Using only the allowed resources (i.e. 1 page of notes)
- Having unallowed technology (such as phones) put away in your bag

Failure to honor the integrity expectations will result in an undroppable score of 0, and the college may be notified.

Attendance and Add/Drop

I expect you to be an active participant in the class by attending class sessions and submitting your assignments in a timely way. In particular, **if you do not show up to class during the first class meeting or appear to be inactive (not attending class, submitting assignments, or communicating) within the first two weeks of the class, you may be dropped from the course.** If you have extenuating circumstances, please communicate with me and I will do my best to make appropriate accommodations. Missing an in-person assessment without discussing it with me beforehand may result in a score of 0.

You can find information about adding or dropping courses [here](#).

COVID resources

- De Anza COVID Information: <https://www.deanza.edu/healthservices/covid-19.html>
- Student COVID Reporting Form: <https://www.deanza.edu/covid/student-form.html>

Student Learning Outcome(s):

- Critique a mathematical statement for its truth value, defend choice by formulating a mathematical proof or constructing a counterexample.
- Analyze and apply patterns of discrete mathematical structures to demonstrate mathematical thinking.

Office Hours:

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

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