#### Explorations in Modern Mathematics

#### Dr. Darci L. Kracht

347 MSB

MWF 11:00-11:50 (330) 672-9093

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Class Webpage: www.math.kent.edu/~darci/forstudents/excur Homework Webpage: kent.mylabsplus.com

### Prerequisite

The prerequisite for this course is a **C** (73%) or better in Math 10023, or appropriate placement test score. Students without the proper prerequisite risk being deregistered from the course later in the semester.

### Text, Software, and Toy

The required web-based software for this course is MyLabsPlus. You will automatically be enrolled in the correct section of the course in MyLabsPlus when you register for the class in Flashline. However, you still must purchase an access code. If you are unable to purchase an access code right away, you will have free temporary access until September 9.

The text for this course is **Excursions in Modern Mathematics**, KSU Custom Edition, by Peter Tannenbaum. You do not have to purchase a printed copy of the text, since a pdf is available in MyLabsPlus. The most economical option is to buy a loose-leaf, binder-ready book bundled with a MyLabsPlus access code, available at http://store.pearsoned.com/kentstate/math for \$76 and at the campus bookstore for about \$110.

You will need a Rubik's cube for this course. You may need a calculator for some parts of the course, so please bring one to class daily.

#### **Email and Class Webpage**

Students are required to monitor their @kent.edu email account. Your instructor will email the class through Flashline and through MyLabsPlus. Course materials will be posted at

www.math.kent.edu/~darci/forstudents/excur.

#### **Grading Scheme**

Your grade will be determined by the following:

Attendance and Engagement	20
MLP Homework	80
Quizzes/Class work	100
Exams (5)	500
TOTAL	700

Letter grades for the course will be assigned as follows:

A: 93% A-: 90% B+: 87% B: 83% B-: 80% C+: 77% C: 73% C-: 70% D+: 67% D: 60%

## **Attendance and Engagement**

Good attendance and participation in the class discussion are important for success in this course. You are required to arrive on time and remain for the full 50 minutes. You must silence and put away all electronic devices, such as phones, iPods, laptops, etc.

If you miss a class, you are responsible for making up the work you missed. If you anticipate a lengthy illness or hospital stay, please contact your instructor or your college dean as soon as possible.

Students who follow the attendance guidelines, participate actively and respectfully with their classmates during group work, and contribute frequently and meaningfully to whole class discussions should expect to earn a B for their Engagement grade. Students who also demonstrate frequent insights and original thinking will earn an A. Students with lapses in attendance and/or passivity in class can expect a C or lower. Students will be given an opportunity to self-assess their engagement and these assessments will be taken into consideration by the instructor.

### MyLabsPlus Assignments

Assignments for the week will generally be posted by Friday of the previous week. There will generally be one assignment per section. All MyLabsPlus assignments will be weighted equally at the end of the semester, even though they will have different numbers of problems. At the end of the semester, your homework average will be scaled to a score out of 80 points. Deadline extensions will **not** be granted, except under extraordinary circumstances. Students may continue to work on homework assignments after the deadline with a penalty of 2% per day of the points earned after the deadline up until the next exam.

## **Bonus Preview Assignments**

There will be an Bonus Preview assignment in My-LabsPlus for most class days. The Preview assignment will introduce the day's work. It will generally contain videos to be viewed along with a few similar exercises. You should read the section in the book or ebook before attempting the Preview assignment. The Preview assignments are due shortly before class each day. Deadline extensions will **not** be granted and late submission will **not** be accepted. All Bonus Preview assignments will be weighted equally at the end of the semester, even though they will have different numbers of problems. At the end of the semester, your Preview average will be scaled to a score out of 20 extra credit points.

## Quizzes

At the end of class on Friday, there will usually be short written quiz on all of the week's class work and assignments. All students must take the quiz in class. Sometimes class group work will be collected and counted as a quiz. Make-up quizzes will **not** generally be given, even for excused absences. Instead, several of your lowest scores will be dropped at the end of the semester. After that, your Quiz average will be scaled to a score out of 100 points.

### Exams

There will be five exams worth 100 points each. See the schedule for dates.

# Exam Make-up Policy

Make-up exams will be given only to those students with a valid, documented excuse who make an explicit agreement with the instructor in advance for a make-up. Leaving early for break is not an acceptable excuse. Please do not make travel plans that conflict with exams. Last-minute voicemail or email messages will be accepted as a rescheduling arrangement only in case of a sudden and serious emergency.

## **Learning Outcomes**

The expected outcomes of this course may be found on the class web page.

## **Tutoring**

The Academic Success Center provides free dropin tutoring on the first floor of the library during the day and in residence halls in the evenings. They also have a program of scheduled small-group tutoring, which is available to all students this year. See http://www.kent.edu/asc/ for more information.

### Registration Deadline

The official registration deadline for this course is September 7, 2014. University policy requires all students to be officially registered in each class they are attending. Students who are not officially registered for a course by the published deadlines should not be attending classes and will not receive credit or a grade for the course. Each student must confirm enrollment by checking his/her class schedule (using Student Tools in Flashline) prior to the deadline indicated. Registration errors must be corrected prior to the deadline.

The official withdrawal deadline for this course is November 2, 2014.

## Cheating and Plagiarism

University policy 3342-3-01.8 deals with the problem of academic dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism. If you have any questions, please read the policy and/or ask. (See http://www.kent.edu/policyreg/.)

#### Students with Disabilities

University policy 3342-3-18 requires that students with disabilities be provided with reasonable accommodations to ensure their equal access to course content. If you have a documented disability and require accommodations, please contact your instructor at the beginning of the semester to make arrangements for necessary classroom adjustments. Please note, you must first verify your eligibility for these through Student Accessibility Services. (Contact 330-672-3391 or visit http://www.registrars.kent.edu/disability/ for more information and registration procedures.)