

Welcome to Discrete Math!

Start of Lecture 1

Today: Objectives, Propositions and Predicates, Syllabus





An Exercise:

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(or someone messed up)

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Course Objectives

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- Use mathematical language to **precisely communicate**.



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- **Think mathematically** and **prove statements** in a variety of domains.



Welcome to discrete math! Here's what you'll learn:

- Use mathematical language to **precisely communicate**.
- **Think mathematically** and **prove statements** in a variety of domains.
- Develop a **toolkit of definitions and techniques** from graph theory, combinatorics, probability, and number theory.



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- Solve $\sqrt{x - 3} = x - 5$.
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- x is divisible by 7.



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Definition: A **predicate** is a statement that contains one or more variables.

Example: Let $P(n)$ be the predicate ‘ n is divisible by 7’.
Then $P(14)$ is true, while $P(15)$ is false.



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We can use "**for all**" to turn a predicate into a proposition.



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Notation you might see:

- $\forall x \in \mathbb{N}, x^2 \geq x$.
- $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, x^2 \geq x$.
- $\exists x \in \mathbb{R} : x^2 = 2$.
- $\exists x \in \mathbb{Z} : x^2 = 2$.



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 There are 5 people in this room $\wedge$ Some birds can fly.
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 $9 + 8 = 17 \vee$ “cat” has three letters.
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 Styopa is **not** 6 feet tall.



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- **Not:** (denoted $\neg$)
 Styopa is **not** 6 feet tall.
 $\neg$ (“The sky is blue”)



Logical Operators: And, Or, Not

Truth tables for and, or, and not:

And

p	q	$p \wedge q$
T	T	
T	F	
F	T	
F	F	

Or

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Logical Operators: Implication

Implies/If then: (denoted $\implies$)

"It's raining $\implies$ the ground is wet."



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Logical Operators: If and Only If



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Grade Breakdown:

- Homework: 25%
- Midterm 1: 20%
- Midterm 2: 20%
- Final Exam: 35%
- Recitations: 4% Extra Credit



Syllabus Highlights

Homeworks:

- Weekly, due on **Fridays at 11:59 PM**.
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More details on course website. . .

