

Math. 441 Computability and Logic

Time: 8:30-9:20 Room 326 CCMB

Instructor: Julia Knight

Office: 233 CCMB

Hours: MWF 9:30-10:30 (or just come in)

Text: Lewis and Papadimitriou
Elements of the Theory of Computation, 2nd edition.

The course covers some mathematical foundations of computer science. In particular, there are descriptions of various classes of machines, and there are results saying what these machines can and cannot do.

Grading

There will be three midterms, each worth 100 points, plus a final exam., worth 150 points.

Homework will be assigned nearly every class period, due the following period. Homework will be worth 100 points in total--just as much as a midterm. The points will be given partly for written work, and partly for participation in classroom discussion.

The problems in the text are interesting; some are very challenging. You are encouraged to work together and pool your ideas to arrive at solutions. You need to write up the solutions for yourself, and be prepared to give explanations in class.

Exams

The dates of the exams. are as follows. Please make a note of them and try to schedule your travel, your sister's wedding, etc., so as to be present. If you are ill, or if there is a death in your immediate family, you should contact the instructor as soon as possible to schedule individual help sessions, if needed, and a make-up.

Exam. I: Friday, Sept. 18 (in class)
Exam. II: Wednesday, Oct. 14 (in class)
Exam. III: Friday, Nov. 20 (in class)
Final: Thursday, Dec. 17, 8:00-10:00 a.m.