

Finite Mathematics

University of South Carolina

Department of Mathematics

Fall 2025

Course Information

Instructor:	Chase Fleming	Course:	MATH 170
Email:	cf17@email.sc.edu	Section:	005
Office Location:	LeConte 115	CRN:	26368
Office Hours:	M 4-5, W 4-5, Th 3-4 at MTC		
Credits:	3		

Meeting Information

Location	Day	Time
LeConte 118	Monday, Wednesday	5:30 pm - 6:45 pm

Course Description and Objectives

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the use of basic mathematics terms related to Matrices, Linear Programming, Financial Math, Combinatorics, Probability, and Logic.
2. Apply concepts and methods to problems involving linear optimization, computation of present and future values, various forms of permutations and combinations, and probability and logic problems.
3. Demonstrate ability to interpret and translate graphs, tables, and word problems into mathematics statements that can be solved using the above techniques together with basic algebra, geometry, and arithmetic.
4. Demonstrate ability to utilize a graphing calculator to solve problems, graph functions, and interpret data.

Required Materials

Textbook: *Finite Mathematics* (7th edition), S. Waner and S.R. Costenoble CENGAGE Learning, Boston, MA 2018

A .pdf copy is sufficient. Any homework problems coming from the textbook will be provided in full. If you need help finding a copy, shoot me an email or stop by my office.

Online Materials: You will need to be able to access Blackboard for all posted lecture notes.

Calculator: A graphing calculator is required for the course. Use of the TI-83 or TI-84 is strongly recommended. Cell phones will not be permitted for the use of a calculator during quizzes and exams.

Course Policies and Expectations

Attendance: As discussed in [UofSC attendance policies](#), unexcused absences for more than 10 percent of the scheduled class session is excessive and I reserve the right to exact a grade penalty for such absences.

Participation: Participation is critical for the learning environment of this classroom. Students are expected to attend every class meeting. Students will be expected to contribute to meaningful discussion during both lecture and group work.

Electronics: Cell phones and laptop computers are *not* permitted. Keep your phone on silent and stowed away. Students will be given one warning. Any subsequent infraction will result in the student being asked to leave the class. Tablet computers are allowed for note taking, but these devices must be kept on silent. During quizzes and exams, all electronics except calculators and devices approved by Student Disability Resource Center must be stowed away. This includes but is not limited to: cell phones, headphones/earbuds, and smart watches.

Academic Integrity: Students are expected to be familiar with the Honor Code and Code of Conduct. Any suspected violations of the Honor Code will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. “Any student who violates this Honor Code or who knowingly assists another to violate this Honor Code shall be subject to discipline.” For more information visit: [Student Conduct and Academic Integrity](#).

Generative artificial intelligence: Tools like ChatGPT have become ubiquitous to a lot of students. The use of generative AI tools on assignments outside of class is permitted but extremely discouraged. The use of these tools in class is strictly prohibited. Math courses, on top of teaching the literal course material, are designed to make students engage with certain modes of thinking and develop critical thinking skills and strategies through assignments. If assignments are completed only with generative AI tools, then students are not developing the above stated skills.

Students with Disabilities: The Student Disability Resource Center’s purpose is to provide all students access to a fair and effective learning environment. If you require any accommodations, register with the SDRC. Once I receive notification, I will work with you to ensure that you have every opportunity to succeed. For more information visit: [Student Disability Resource Center](#).

Late Policy: Unless exceptional circumstances, homework turned in late will receive a 50% deduction. Homework turned in after 1 week late, will receive a score of 0.

Make Up Policy: Exams and quizzes can only be made up in the event of an excused absence. In order to request a make up, please follow the excused absence guidelines stated by [Office of Student Advocacy](#). It is your responsibility to contact me and the Office of

Student Advocacy in the case of an excused absence.

Assignments

Homework: Homework will be assigned on Mondays, and due in class the following Monday. Homework will be posted in Blackboard, and collected in person only. Homework will be graded for completion only. Solutions will be posted the day the homework is due.

Quizzes: Every Wednesday, excluding days of exams, an in person quiz will be given. The quiz will include questions from last week's homework assignments. Quizzes will be graded for correctness.

Exams: The three exams will directly reflect the material covered in the class and the homework. The dates of the exams will be: Sept. 17th, Oct. 22nd, and Nov. 19th.

Final Exam: The final exam is *cumulative* and will take place on Wednesday, December 10th.

Evaluation

Type	Weight	Grade	Percentage
Participation/Homework	10%	A	100-90%
Quiz	20%	B+	89-87%
Exams (3 total)	50%	B	86-80%
Final Exam	20%	C+	79-77%
Total	100%	C	76-70%
		D+	69-67%
		D	66-60%
		F	59% and below

Support

Office Hours: Past students have found office hours greatly beneficial. Feel free to drop by often; the earlier in the semester the better.

Math Tutoring Center: Provides graduate student tutors who are willing and able to help students better understand mathematical concepts. For more information visit: [Math Tutoring Center](#). Note : The MTC is in LeConte building, room 102.

Tips: A mathematics class is often built like a pyramid. We start with the bottom of the pyramid, and build from there. This class is no different. It is strongly recommended for your success in this class that you start the semester working hard, and never fall behind. Most of what we see in this class will be used or referred to later in the class. If there is a concept or idea that you are having a hard time with, come see me and make sure you understand it as soon as possible. To succeed well in this class, you should expect to spend two hours studying and/or doing homework for every hour we spend in class.

Student Success Center: Your success in this course is important. That is why the

instructor has partnered with the Student Success Center (SSC) to assist you in better understanding course material and to aid you on your path to success. Resources available to students in this course include: *Peer Tutoring*, *Supplemental Instruction (SI)*, and *Peer Success Consultations*. Your instructor may communicate with the SSC regarding your progress throughout the semester. If contacted by the SSC, please schedule a Success Consultation immediately as this indicates your instructor is concerned about your progress in this course. Referrals are not punitive, and any information shared by your professor is confidential and subject to FERPA regulations. SSC services are offered to all UofSC undergraduates at no additional cost. Please call (803) 777-1000, visit our website ([Student Success Center](#)), or come to the SSC in the Thomas Cooper Library (Mezzanine Level) to check schedules and make appointments.

Important Dates

Event	Date
Classes Begin	Aug. 19
Last day to change/drop a course without a grade of “W” being recorded	Aug. 25
Labor Day (no classes)	Sept. 1
Fall Break (no classes)	Oct. 9-10
Last day to drop a course or withdraw without a grade of “WF” being recorded	Nov. 5
Thanksgiving Recess	Nov. 23-30
Last Day of Classes	Dec. 5
Final Exam	Dec. 10

Syllabus is tentative and subject to change.