Honors 151 - Mathematics and Modern Life Spring 2013

Basic Info:

Instructor:	Dr. Nathan Reff
Email:	reff@alfred.edu
Office:	Myers Hall 109B
Phone:	607.871.2818
Office Hours:	T 2:00PM-3:00PM and 6:00PM-7:00PM,
	WF 9:15AM-10:15AM
Course Web Page:	http://people.alfred.edu/~reff/HONR151/
Course Meetings:	T 7:20PM-9:10PM in Myers Hall 228



Course Description: Most of the things we interact with on a daily basis have some extraordinary mathematics running the show. How does Pandora pick your next song? How does Google find exactly what you are looking for? How can we safely exchange digital information? In this course we will explore questions like these and the math we take for granted.

Course Goals: Learn some new math and how it is applied to our daily lives.

Grade Distribution: Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Attendance/Participation	30%
Homework, Worksheets, etc.	40%
Final Project	30%

Attendance/Participation: You are expected to attend and be a part of every class meeting. I will keep a record of your attendance, participation and preparation.

Homework/Worksheets: Homework problems will be assigned each class and will be collected the following week. Late homework will not be accepted. Please make sure your homework is *neat* (legible, not torn out of a spiral bound notebook, etc.) and *stapled* when you turn it in. Occasionally worksheets and other classwork will be assigned. These assignments will carry the same weight as a homework for the course. I recommend working on your own and also with other classmates (but make sure you are turning in your own work). If you are working on a problem and get stuck, make a note of it and remember to *ask questions*. I encourage *everyone* to come to office hours.

Final Projects: You will study and present a mathematical topic that is new to you. The topic should involve mathematics with an applied component explaining how the mathematics is used. The topic is your choice, but needs to be approved. If you need help coming up with ideas, please come and see me or send me an email. You will give a presentation during class and turn in some readable form of your presentation. Presentations will be no more than 20 minutes and will take place on April 23 and April 30 (the

last two class meetings).

Cheating and Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. It is disrespectful to the University, your classmates and to me. Any form of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. Alfred University's policies on Academic Dishonesty (Unethical Practices) (see Policy 700) can be found at http://my.alfred.edu/index.cfm/fuseaction/academic_policies.academic_regulation_ug.cfm.

Excused Absences: If you cannot attend one of the lectures you should submit a written (email) reason for your absence. I would appreciate letting me know at least 3 days in advance if you are going to miss a class. If you must miss a class it is your responsibility to learn the missed material and complete any assignments.

Students with Disabilities: Alfred University is committed to upholding and maintaining all aspects of the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you are a student with a disability and wish to request accommodations, please contact Dr. Aubrey Elmore at the Office of Special Academic Services located in Crandall Hall, or call (607) 871-2148. Any information regarding your disability will remain confidential. Many accommodations require early planning, therefore requests for accommodations should be made as early as possible. Any requests for accommodations will be reviewed in a timely manner to determine their appropriateness to this setting.

Disclaimer: I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus without prior notice.