

## Math 274 - Combinatorics -Spring, 2008

**Instructor:** Gexin Yu, SC 1406, phone: 343-5629, gexin.yu@vanderbilt.edu

**Meeting time and location:** Tuesday and Thursday at 1:10-2:25pm at SC 1210

**Office Hours:** T: 2:30-4pm, R: 11-12am, or by appointment

**Web page:** <http://www.math.vanderbilt.edu/people/yu.gexin/Teaching>

**Text:** We will use the manuscript “Combinatorial Mathematics” prepared by Douglas West from the University of Illinois.

**Description:** This is an introductory course for combinatorics. The course will cover permutation and combination, recurrence relations, generating functions, inclusion-exclusion principle, Pigeonhole principle and Ramsey Theorem, and if time permits, Latin squares and projective planes.

**Homework:** 12 homework sets will be given in the semester, with 5 points each. The lowest score will be extra credit.

Homework sets will be given on Tuesday, and will be due in class on the Tuesday of the school week following the week in which they are announced.

Written solutions to problems should be fully explained, using clear English sentences where necessary. **You are encouraged to discuss the problems together, but everyone should write your own solution.**

**Final Exam:** A take-home final exam will be given. You should work on the exam **independently**.

**Assessment:** Assessment for this course will consist of two parts: written problems, and a final examination. Your final grade will be calculated from a percentage calculated as follows: 60% of written problems + 40% of final exam.