WELCOME!....

Dr. Zachary Abel
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Creator of much of 6.042’s course material
6.042 Quick Summary

1. Fundamental Concepts of Discrete Mathematics (sets, relations, proof methods,...)
2. Discrete Mathematical Structures (numbers, graphs, trees, counting...)
3. Discrete Probability Theory
Strong Math Experience?

If you have

• been on a school Math Team
• done Math competitions (like Olympiad, Putnam, MAA)
• taken one or more of 6.006, 18.100, 18.06, 18.200, 6.042 may not be for you
Strong Math Experience?

Discuss 6.042 alternatives with the Instructor

6042-instructors@mit.edu
Vocabulary

Quickie:
What does “discrete” mean? (≠ “discreet”)
Stellar Web site

- notes, handouts
- class calendar
- course organization
- problem submission

https://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/6/sp17/6.042/
Reading Assignment

Readings & online problems in class calendar on Stellar due starting Friday
MITx site: 6.042r

Register for session assignment by Friday midnight (find link on Stellar)

site has videos, slides, online questions
How the Class Works

Active learning in Teams

MWF 1.5 hour sessions:

• Teams of same 6—8 students with Team Coach.

• Team learning through problems & discussion
How the Class Works

• required attendance
• videos, online problems most days
• four 90 min. evening midterms
• psets: weekly (not midterm weeks)
Teamwork

The good about teams:
• an efficient way to learn
• fun (for many students)
• like professional organizations
• learn to communicate
• cope with diversity

...USUALLY
Teamwork

The **bad** about teams:

- must be there **prepared!**
- unremitting

  and sometimes:

  - very strong are slowed down
  - very weak left behind
  - deal with unpleasant people
Teamwork

Your team coach will be working to bring out the good and control the bad

--TAs & instructor too
Teamwork

Team approach is controversial

\( \frac{1}{4} \) love it
\( \frac{1}{4} \) hate it
\( \frac{1}{2} \) neutral
Teamwork

In F18, 6.042 will be taught in usual lecture/recitation style.
Register on MITx

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MITx link on Stellar