

MATH 310 SECTION 1 SPRING 2009

Instructor. Prof. Christel Rotthaus

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Office Hours. MWF 3-4pm, and by appointment

Text. Hungerford, *Abstract Algebra*, Saunders College Publishing, second edition, 1997

Course objectives. The course focuses on basic topics in abstract algebra while introducing the students to the language of algebra. Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to understand mathematical arguments typical to this area of algebra, and should also be able to present written proofs and solutions to relevant theorems and problems.

The course covers the following sections of the text:

Chapter 1: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3

Chapter 2: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3

Chapter 3: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3

Chapter 4: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, [4.5], [4.6]

Chapter 5: 5.1, 5.2, 5.3

Chapter 6: 6.1, 6.2, [6.3]

Chapter 7: [7.1], [7.2], [7.3], [7.4]

Sections [-] will only be covered if time permits. **All** covered material is relevant for tests and for the final exam.

Homework, Exams and Grading. Your grade will be determined by:

2 One-hour exams: tentative dates: February 16 and April 6

Final exam: Monday, May 4, 10.00 - 12.00noon

and *homework*.

Homework: Homework problems will be assigned at the beginning of each class. It is essential to your understanding of what is going on in class that you work hard on them on a day-to-day basis. The problems assigned will be collected weekly every Wednesday starting January 21. Your solutions must be written up *neatly* and *logically*, with appropriate explanation (in complete sentences) of what you are doing. Some of the homework problems will be graded. You may discuss any of the problems with each other, as long as you work alone and use your own wording to write up the homework to be handed in. *Late assignments will not be accepted.*

In general, the University policy concerning academic integrity applies to this class. According to the Spartan Life Booklet, General Student Regulations,

".. no student shall claim or submit the work of another as one's own"

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After each class read your notes, read the section in the book, and do the assigned homework problems. You should do at least two hours of work outside of class for each class section. Attend all classes.

Point distribution:

Hourly Exams 100 Points each

Final 200 Points

Homework 200 Points

NOTE: In order to achieve a passing grade in this course you need at least 100pts (50%) in the Final Exam **and** 50% of the Homework and Midterm scores.

Your maximal score could be 600pts. Depending on *all* your work (exams, homework, and final exam) your grade will be determined according to the following:

Grading scale:

4.0 • 92% or above

3.5 • 85 - 91%

3.0 • 78 - 84%

2.5 • 71 - 77%

2.0 • 64 - 70%

1.5 • 57 - 63%

1.0 • 50 - 56%

0.0 • 49% and below

Dates to know.

Monday, January 19 - Martin Luther King Day. Classes cancelled.

Friday, February 2 - End of tuition refund

Wednesday, March 3 - Middle of semester. Last day to drop a course without a grade reported.

Monday, March 9 - Friday, March 13 - Spring Break

Friday, May 1 - Last day of classes

Monday, May 4 - Friday, May 9 - Final exams (refer to Regular Exam Schedule for Spring 2009)

Friday, May 8 - Sunday, May 10 - Commencements