

Course Syllabus

Course: Mathematics 8011.001.

Course Title: Abstract Algebra I.

Time: TR 9:30-10:50 AM.

Place: Wachman Hall CC 527.

Instructor: Lorenz, Martin W.

Instructor Office: Wachman Hall CC 528.

Instructor Email: martin.lorenz@temple.edu

Instructor Phone: 215-204-5013.

Office Hours: MTR 11 - 12 noon.

Prerequisites: Math 205 or equivalent or permission of instructor.

Textbook: Dummit & Foote: Abstract Algebra, 3rd ed., John Wiley & Sons, 2004.

Course Goals: This course, the first part of a two-semester sequence, gives an introduction to the terminology and methods of modern abstract algebra.

Topics Covered: We will cover a selection of the material in Chapters 1 – 11 and (if time permits) Chap. 13 of the textbook.

Course Grading: The midterm score and the total score from all homeworks will each count for 30% of your grade. The final exam will count as 40% of your grade.

Exam Dates: There will be two exams, a Midterm Exam on Thursday, Oct. 22, 8:50 - 10:50 AM, and a comprehensive Final Exam on Thursday, Dec. 17, 8 - 10 AM. Both exams will be given in Room CC 527.

Attendance Policy: Attendance will not be monitored, but you are strongly encouraged to attend class regularly and to take complete class notes.

Homework: Homework will be assigned and collected approximately weekly. You may work together on the assignments, but I expect everybody to write up their own solutions; obvious copies will not be accepted. The writing component is an essential part of this course.

Blackboard: You should check Blackboard regularly for assignments, summaries of lectures, course documents, and other information.

GAP: This is a system for computational discrete algebra, with particular emphasis on Computational Group Theory. It will not be an integral part of the course, but I will occasionally mention GAP in my lectures. The system is free; see the link on Blackboard. GAP is an extremely useful tool for experimental explorations in algebra. You will enjoy playing with it.

Any student who has a need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss the specific situation as soon as possible. Contact Disability Resources and Services at (215) 204-1280, 100 Ritter Annex, to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom. The University has adopted a policy on Student and Faculty Academic Rights and Responsibilities (Policy # 03.70.02) which can be accessed at <http://policies.temple.edu>.

Students will be charged for a course unless a withdrawal form is processed by a registration office of the University by the Drop/Add deadline date given below. For this semester, the crucial dates are as follows:

- The first day of classes is Monday, August 31.
- Labor Day is Monday, September 7.
- The last day to drop/add (tuition refund available) is Monday, September 14.
- Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 26.
- The last day to withdraw (no refund) is Monday, November 2.
- The last day of classes is Wednesday, December 9.

During the first two weeks of the fall or spring semester or summer sessions, students may withdraw from a course with no record of the class appearing on the transcript. In weeks three through nine of the fall or spring semester, or during weeks three and four of summer sessions, the student may withdraw with the advisor's permission. The course will be recorded on the transcript with the instructor's notation of "W," indicating that the student withdrew. After week nine of the fall or spring semester, or week four of summer sessions, students may not withdraw from courses. No student may withdraw from more than five courses during the duration of his/her studies to earn a bachelor's degree. A student may not withdraw from the same course more than once. *Students who miss the final exam and do not make alternative arrangements before the grades are turned in will be graded F.*

The grade I (an "incomplete") is reserved for extreme circumstances. It is necessary to have completed almost all of the course with a passing average and to file an *incomplete contract* specifying what is left for you to do. To be eligible for an I grade you need a good reason and you should have missed not more than 25% of the first nine weeks of classes. If approved by the Mathematics Department chair and the CST Dean's office, the incomplete contract must include a default grade that will be used in case the I grade is not resolved within 12 months.