MAT 275  
Introduction to Abstract Mathematics  
Spring 2009

Instructor: Professor Jeffrey Meyer, 206F Carnegie  
443-1479 or 443-1473  
jlmeye01@syr.edu

Office Hours: W 10:00 – 11:30 am, TTh 12:30 – 1:30 pm,  
and by appointment.

Text: Passage to Abstract Mathematics, by Watkins and Meyer. The text  
is available in pre-published form from the SU Bookstore.

Course Description: Besides learning some new mathematics that will turn  
out to be relevant in later classes, the main goal of this course is that the  
student should learn how to write and read proofs. We cover at least some  
parts of each chapter in the text. Therefore notes from the lecture will be  
more important than the text. For this reason it will be hard to catch up if  
you miss class. You will need to get notes from another student – I will not  
provide notes for lectures that are missed. There may be additional topics  
presented by the instructor. The emphasis of the course is mastery of the  
material and methods rather than covering a specific list of topics. Thus  
there is no set daily schedule for the course. We will proceed at the  
necessary pace to master the essential ideas. The work you do for the course  
will include solving problems with applications from the material and  
writing proofs of claims.

Prerequisite: MAT 295 or permission of instructor.

Calculator: No calculator is necessary for this class.
**Grading:** Your grade will be based on the following:

- Two one-hour exams: 20% each
- Final exam: 25%
- (Nearly) Weekly Quizzes: 25%
- Homework: 10%

**Exam Dates:**

Tentative schedule:
- Exam 1: Tuesday, February 17, 2009
- Exam 2: Tuesday, April 23, 2009
- Final Exam: Friday, May 2, 2008, 12:30 - 2:30 PM

There will be no make-up exams or quizzes. As per departmental policy, any exam missed will be made up with the relevant portion of the final exam. I will drop at least two of the lowest quiz scores.