

MAT 534 Introduction to Abstract Algebra Fall 2011. Page 1

Tu-Th 3:30-4:50

Instructor: Associate Professor Steven P. Diaz Carnegie 317C, office phone 1583, email spdiaz@syr.edu.

Office hours: Tuesday 11:15 am – 12:00, Wednesday 2:00 pm – 3:00, Thursday 2:15 pm – 3:00. Also available by appointment.

Text: Contemporary Abstract Algebra, seventh edition, by Joseph A. Gallian, Brooks/Cole Belmont, CA 2010.

Prerequisite: MAT 531.

Test dates: Thursday, September 22, Thursday, October 27, Thursday, December 1. These tests will be during the regular class period.

Homework: Homework will be assigned during class. It will be due at the beginning of class the Thursday after it is assigned. It will be graded and will count toward the grade for the course. Students are allowed to collaborate on the homework, but each student must hand in her or his own separate assignments. Collaboration includes working on the problem together or giving hints to other students after you have solved it yourself. It does not include letting someone else simply copy your solution.

Final exam: Period 06, Tuesday, December 13, 12:45 – 2:45pm. It will be a comprehensive final exam.

Calculation of course grade: 3 test during the term 20% each, homework 15%, final exam 25%.

I hope to cover most of the material in chapters 1-10 and 12 of the text book. Depending on the abilities of the class I might do slightly more or less.

All exams will be closed book, books, notes and calculators will not be allowed.

Learning outcomes: This is a course in abstract mathematics primarily intended for mathematics majors and those who wish to learn how to think like a mathematician. We will study mainly groups and also a little bit about rings. The student should learn how to read, understand and write proofs and other abstract mathematical arguments based on axioms and rules of logic.

Learning strategies: Students should pay careful attention in class and ask questions when they are confused. Make sure you do all the homework. Come to office hours and ask questions if you are having trouble with the homework or trouble fully understanding the lectures or any covered material in the text book.

Students with Disabilities: If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), <http://disabilityservices.syr.edu>, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible. You are also welcome to contact me privately to discuss your academic needs although I cannot arrange for disability-related accommodations. Making arrangements with ODS takes time. Do not wait until just before the first test.

Academic Integrity: The Syracuse University Academic Integrity Policy holds students accountable for the integrity of the work they submit. Students should be familiar with the Policy and know that it is their responsibility to learn about instructor and general academic expectations with regard to proper citation of sources in written work. The policy also governs the integrity of work submitted in exams and assignments as well as the veracity of signatures on attendance sheets and other verifications of participation in class activities. Serious sanctions can result from academic dishonesty of any sort. For more information and the complete policy, see <http://academic integrity.syr.edu>

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