Math 103A: Modern Algebra I

Instructor: Kristin DeVleming (she/her)
kdevleming@ucsd.edu
AP&M 6333

Lecture: 9:00 - 9:50 AM MWF, PETER 103

Office Hours: 10:00 - 11:00 AM MW, AP&M 6333

TA: Nandagopal Ramachandran
naramach@ucsd.edu
AP&M 5748

Office Hours: 11:00 - 12:00 TTh, AP&M 5748

Discussion: 7:00 - 7:50 PM W, AP&M B402A

Website: www.math.ucsd.edu/∼kdevleming/teaching/wi20/math103/

Textbook: *First Course In Abstract Algebra*, Fraleigh, seventh edition.

Overview

In this course, we will learn group theory and some of its applications. Class will consist of a lecture portion on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and a discussion section on Wednesday evening. In class, we will incorporate active learning in the form of worksheets, small group work, and plenty of problem solving.

Exams

Exams will be held on the following days:

- Midterm 1: in class, Wednesday, January 29
- Midterm 2: in class, Friday, February 21
- Final: 8:00 - 11:00 AM, Wednesday, March 18

For each exam, you may have one 8.5 × 11 inch single-sided handwritten note sheet. There are **no** make-up exams. If you are caught cheating on an exam, you will receive a score of 0 and be reported to the Academic Integrity Office.

Homework

Homework will typically be due on Thursdays by 4 pm, with the exception of Homework 2 (due Tuesday before the first midterm). Late homework will not be accepted. Your lowest homework score will be dropped.

Doing the homework problems is *crucial* to understanding the material in this course. Your homework score will be a combination of completeness (completing every assigned problem) and correctness (certain problems will be graded in detail). Because you will not receive feedback on every problem assigned, it is up to you to make sure you understand how to do them.

You are encouraged to work on your homework with others but you must write up your solutions on your own. Your homework can be handwritten or typed (the standard program for typesetting mathematics is LaTeX).

The homework assignments will consist of problems out of Fraleigh's book and other written problems, often coming from in-class worksheets.

Grading

Your course grade will be the highest of the following weighted averages:

- Homework (20%), Midterm 1 (20%), Midterm 2 (20%), Final (40%),
- Homework (20%), best midterm score (30%), Final (50%)

Academic Integrity

It is up to you to take responsibility for your education. This includes respecting yourself, each other, your instructor, and your TAs and taking pride in your work. Students caught cheating will face an administrative sanction which may include suspension or expulsion from the university.

Getting Help

If you have any questions, I encourage you to come to my office hours or those of your TA. Check the course website for times and locations.

I also encourage you to use `Piazza`. Piazza is an online discussion forum that allows you to ask questions using mathematical symbols and expressions. Piazza was designed to enable you to get help quickly and efficiently from classmates, TAs, and instructors. Rather than emailing questions to me or your TA, I encourage you to post your questions there. You have the choice to be anonymous to your peers on Piazza (although I am able to see who is posting what).

For students with disabilities, the `Office for Students with Disabilities` (OSD) is an on-campus resource to determine reasonable accommodations in class and on exams. They can help students with physical, psychological, and learning disabilities.

If you are struggling with your mental health and well-being, UCSD Counseling and Psychological Services `(CAPS)` provides free, confidential psychological counseling and crisis services for all registered students.