Mathematics 103B Syllabus: Spring 2021

1 About the instructor

1. Name: Aaron Pollack
2. Office: Virtual, via Zoom
3. email: apollack@ucsd.edu
4. course website: https://www.math.ucsd.edu/~apollack/teachingS21.html
5. Office hours: Please see course website; also, by appointment
6. All days and times refer to US Pacific time

2 Basic course information

- Textbook: *Contemporary Abstract Algebra*, 9th edition, by Joseph A. Gallian. We will cover almost all of Parts 3 and 4, and (time permitting) maybe a bit more.

- Official class meeting time: MWF, 11:00am-11:50am (virtual)
  - First day of lecture: Monday March 29th
  - Last day of lecture: Friday June 4th
  - Our default option will be to have live lectures, recorded and uploaded to Canvas. It is possible that we may sometimes have prerecorded lectures. If there is to be a prerecorded lecture, you will be notified in advance via Canvas.
  - On exam days (Friday April 23 and Friday May 21) there will not be lecture.

- Holidays (no lecture):
  - Monday May 31st (Memorial Day)

- Discussion sections
  1. Tu 5:00pm-5:50pm
  2. Tu 6:00pm-6:50pm

- Scheduled final exam: **Friday June 11th 2021, 11:30am-2:30pm (US Pacific time)**. You will have at least a 24-hour window in which to spend 3 hours on your final exam. Your exam will be due at the end of scheduled final exam time.

- Exams: You will have a 24 hour window in which to spend 1 hour on the exam. These exams will be due on the following days.
  1. Friday April 23rd
  2. Friday May 21st
• Homework: Will be due by 10:00pm (US Pacific Time) on the following days:
  1. Wednesday April 7th
  2. Wednesday April 14th
  3. Wednesday April 21st
  4. Wednesday April 28th
  5. Wednesday May 5th
  6. Wednesday May 12th
  7. Wednesday May 19th
  8. Wednesday May 26th
  9. Wednesday June 2nd

3 Grading

Your grade percentage will be computed via the following weights:

• Homework: 40%, with the lowest score automatically dropped. So, each counted homework will be worth 5% of your grade.

• Exams: 15% each

• Final Exam: 30%

The following final percentages will guarantee you the corresponding grade (although the actual grade cutoffs may be lower):

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\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c}
97 & 93 & 90 & 87 & 83 & 80 & 77 & 73 & 70
\end{array}
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Late homework will not be accepted. However, as mentioned, your lowest homework score will automatically be dropped. **Plan on doing all the homework** as this is the only way to learn the material.

The above grading policies are guidelines. The instructor reserves the right to alter these in any and all unusual circumstances.

3.1 Homework policy

The only way to learn the concepts and techniques, and to do well in this course is to work through all of the homework problems. This will ensure that you do not get a false sense of security about if you truly understand the material. However, working with your peers is acceptable. **You must write up the solutions to the problems yourself.** Copying solutions from others or a solutions manual will be deemed academic misconduct. If you worked with peers to solve a problem, you should acknowledge on your homework who you worked with.

• Homework must be written clearly. All work must be shown.
4 Administrative policies

- University-excused absences: If you will miss one of the exams due to religious observation or for representing the university in varsity athletics, you must email me at the above email address no later than two weeks before the absence, but preferably as soon as possible.

- Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter (paper or electronic) issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities. Students are required to discuss accommodation arrangements with instructors and OSD liaisons in the department in advance of any exams or assignments.

- Violations of UCSD’s academic integrity policies (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be handled by the instructor using UCSD administrative measures. In addition, the instructor reserves the right to assign a 0 score to any homework or exam affected by a violation.

5 Other notes

- You should read the material in the textbook before I cover it in class.

- Frequently coming to office hours is a great way to ensure you are keeping up with the material.