

MATH 321 - Abstract Algebra Spring 2021

Instructor: Gabriela Bulancea

Office Hours: MW 10:20 a.m.- 12:20 p.m., or by appointment

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Text: *Contemporary Abstract Algebra*, ninth edition by Joseph A. Gallian, CENGAGE Learning, 2017. We will cover most of Chapters 0-15 in the text. We will introduce and study the properties of two types of algebraic structures, groups and rings, and their associated homomorphisms. Additional resources related to the textbook can be found at <http://www.d.umn.edu/~jgallian/>.

Technology:

- The lectures will be delivered via Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom sessions. **You are expected to attend these live sessions.**
- The office hours will be held in Blackboard Collaborate.
- The exams will be administered via Zoom. To be able to take the exams you will need a working webcam.
- We will use Piazza discussion boards and a OneNote Notebook to deliver and record material covered during lectures.

Homework: Problem sets will be assigned weekly throughout the semester. You are expected to solve all the assigned problems although only selected problems will be graded. You are encouraged to discuss the assigned problems with your classmates in the study group you will be enrolled in and ask questions during office hours. Also, as part of your work outside the classroom, you will be expected to read the material to be discussed in class before the respective class meeting. For this purpose, you should use the textbook and the notes posted on Blackboard.

Class participation: Most class periods there will be assigned one or more problems whose solution will take the form of collaborative work done primarily in class. The work will be done in groups of no more than three that either I will assign or that you will choose. You will be asked to write up the solutions you come up with as a group and submit them. Each group will be required to present their solutions to selected problems from these assignments.

Class Tests: There will be two class tests given during class time administered via Zoom. There is a tentative schedule for the tests below. You are responsible for keeping up with all information announced in the classroom and on Blackboard. There will be no makeup tests.

Test dates:

Test 1	Wednesday, March 3
Test 2	Wednesday, April 14

Final Exam: The final will be on Monday, May 3 between 7:30 and 10:15 a.m. It will be a cumulative exam. The final exam is mandatory regardless of your class standing prior to that. You may replace your lowest test grade with your final exam percentage. In order for this to happen

you must write a note above your name on your final exam.

Grading: Each of the class tests counts for 20%, the homework will count for 25%, the class participation for 10%, and the final exam for 25%.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES: The University Catalog, <http://catalog.gmu.edu>, is the central resource for university policies affecting student, faculty, and staff conduct in university academic affairs. Other policies are available at <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/>. All members of the university community are responsible for knowing and following established policies.

Honor Code: It is expected that each student in this class will conduct themselves within the guidelines of the Honor Code. Given the format of the class, it is important to point out that sharing with anyone information of any kind about exams or quizzes (either before or during the tests), or using online resources during the exams will result at a minimum in a grade of zero for all parties involved. Violations will also be reported to the university Honor committee where further consequences such as probation or expulsion from the university may be incurred. See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode> for a copy of the Honor code.

Inclusivity and equity: George Mason University is an intentionally inclusive community that promotes and maintains an equitable and just work and learning environment. We welcome and value individuals and their differences including race, economic status, gender expression and identity, sex, sexual orientation, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age, and disability.

Disability Services: Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students by upholding the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. If you are seeking accommodations for this class, please first visit <http://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information about the Disability Services registration process. Then please discuss your approved accommodations with me. Disability Services is located in Student Union Building I (SUB I), Suite 2500. Email: ods@gmu.edu — Phone: (703) 993-2474

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