



SYLLABUS Summer 2023

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Abstract Algebra (Math 321)

Instructor: Sean Lawton
Office: Exploratory Hall 4413
Office Hours: By Appointment
Phone: 703 - 993 – 4269
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Lectures: 1:30 pm - 3:35 pm , MTWR Horizon Hall 1011

Required Text: Contemporary Abstract Algebra, 9th Edition, Joseph Gallian, ISBN: 978-1305657960

Prerequisites: MATH 213 and MATH 300; Minimum Grade of C or XS.

Course Description: We cover the basics of groups, rings, and fields; as time allows.

Exams: There will be a short test during the *first hour* of each Thursday. Exams are cumulative, so past material is relevant on every exam. Doing the recommended HW (which will not be collected) will strongly benefit you on exams.

Grading: Your grade for the course will be calculated based on five short tests.

Grading scale (no worse than): A: 90-100%; B: 80-89%; C: 70-79%; D: 60-69%; F: below 60% .

Electronic Devices (such as laptops, cell phones, etc.): Please be respectful of your peers and your instructor and do not engage in activities that are unrelated to class. Such disruptions show a lack of professionalism and may result *penalties*.

Disabilities: Disability Services at George Mason University is committed to upholding the letter and spirit of the laws that ensure equal treatment of people with disabilities. Under the administration of University Life, Disability Services implements and coordinates reasonable accommodations and disability-related services that afford equal access to university programs and activities. Students can begin the registration process with Disability Services at any time during their enrollment at George Mason University.

All academic accommodations must be arranged through that office. It is the student's responsibility to get exam accommodation forms signed and turned in at least one week before the exams.

If you are seeking accommodations, please visit <https://ds.gmu.edu/> for detailed information, or email: ods@gmu.edu.

Academic Integrity: It is expected that students adhere to the George Mason University Honor Code as it relates to integrity regarding coursework and grades. The Honor Code reads as follows:

To promote a stronger sense of mutual responsibility, respect, trust, and fairness among all members of the George Mason University community and with the desire for greater academic and personal achievement, we, the student members of the University Community have set forth this: Student members of the George Mason University community pledge not to cheat, plagiarize, steal and/or lie in matters related to academic work.

More information about the Honor Code, including definitions of cheating, lying, and plagiarism, can be found at the Office of Academic Integrity website at: <https://oai.gmu.edu>.

Diversity: In this course, we seek to create a learning environment that fosters respect for people across identities. We welcome and value individuals and their differences, including gender expression and identity, race, economic status, sex, sexuality, ethnicity, national origin, first language, religion, age and ability. We encourage all members of the learning environment to engage with the material personally, but to also be open to exploring and learning from experiences different than their own. See the following URL for more information:

<https://stearnscenter.gmu.edu/knowledge-center/general-teaching-resources/mason-diversity-statement/>

Privacy: Students must use their GMU email account to receive important University information, including messages related to this class. *I will not correspond to anyone in this course over email if they do not use their official GMU email.*