Mathematics 415, Section 500 – Fall 2005 – Course Information

Instructor: Catherine Yan
Office: Milner 220
Office phone: 862-4476
E-mail: cyan@math.tamu.edu
Office hours: To be determined
Course Web page: http://www.math.tamu.edu/~cyan/Teaching/math415_fall.html
Prerequisites: Math 222 (Linear Algebra)
Class time & Location: TR 2:20-3:35 in CE 223

Reading the textbook is strongly encouraged.

Syllabus:
Math 415 and 416 is a course on algebraic structures such as groups, rings, and fields. For the first semester, in Math 415 we will cover groups and subgroups, permutations, cosets, direct products, homomorphisms and factor groups, and basic ring theory.

More specifically, we will cover Chapters 1 (§1–6), 2(§8–11), 3(§13–15), 4(§18, 22–23) of the textbook. Time allows, we will also cover Section 16.

Homework:
There will be weekly homework assignments. Doing the homework is essential to understanding the material and to doing well on the tests so please take the time to read the appropriate sections or handouts and to do all of the problems each week.

Late homework is not fair to you as a student who is trying to keep up with the class, to your classmates, or to the grader; hence you should turn your assignments in on time. If you will not be in class on the due date, you should arrange to turn in the homework early. Late homework will not be accepted.

Tests:
There will be 2 in-class tests and a comprehensive final exam. The in-class tests are tentatively scheduled for September 29th and November 1st. I reserve the right to change the dates or the particular selection of topics from the syllabus based on the needs of the class. I will give you at least a week’s notice before each test.

The final exam is currently scheduled for Wednesday, 14 December, 1–3 p.m.

Getting help:
You are encouraged to ask questions both in class and outside of it, although I will not answer questions about homework to be collected during that class. I am available to answer questions in office hours and by appointment. You may also contact me via e-mail with your questions and I will respond as soon as possible.

Grades:
Your grade will be determined by your performance on the homework and tests as follows:
homework 100 points
1st test 100 points
2nd test 100 points
Final exam 100 points

There is a total of 400 points. The standard cutoffs for letter grades will be used: A 360 pts, B 320 pts, C 280 pts, D 240 pts.

Attendance on a regular basis is expected. While there are occasionally good reasons for you to choose to miss class, my experience has been that there is a strong correlation between attendance (as long as you are awake and listening) and performance in the course.

If you wish to request a regrade on a test, it must be done in writing within one week of the day on which it was returned to you.

Make-Up Policy:

Make-ups for missed tests will only be given if you have a university approved excuse in writing and if you notify me by the end of the next working day as per university rules. Whenever possible you should inform me before a test or quiz is missed.

Scholastic Dishonesty:

Cheating of any form is not acceptable and it will be dealt with harshly. In particular, copying work done by others, either in-class or out of class, is an act of scholastic dishonesty and it will be prosecuted to the full extent allowed by university policy. Collaboration on assignments is permitted for this course, however each student must write up their own solutions. For more information on university policies regarding scholastic dishonesty, see the University Student Rules.

Copyrights:

All printed handouts and web materials are protected by US Copyright Laws. No multiple copies can be made without written permission from the instructor.