MATH 4613/5003 - Modern Algebra I - Fall 2016

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Roger Zierau
OFFICE: MS502A
OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 10:35-11:20 (in the MLSC, Room 3), Wednesdays 10:30-11:20 and 12:35-1:20 and by appointment.
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TEXT: *Abstract Algebra*, third edition, by D. Dummit and R. Foote is the required textbook.

COURSE CONTENT: This course is the first of a two course sequence. Our goals for this semester are to understand the basics of group theory and to understand linear algebra in some depth. This means we cover much of chapters 1-5 and most of Ch. 11 of the textbook, with a small amount of additional material. An important component in our work will be the enhancement of the skills of finding, constructing and writing clear proofs.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required.

HOMEWORK: Regular homework exercises will be assigned. Some of these exercises will be collected and graded. This homework is a very important part of the course.

GRADING: Regular homework will be assigned. Some of these exercises will be collected and graded. This homework is very important. It will count for a total of 100 points. There will be two exams, which will occur after Chapters 2 and 4. These exams will have an in-class part and a take-home part and will be worth 100 points each. The final exam will be comprehensive and will be worth 200 points. The final is on Friday, December 9 from 8:00 to 9:50 a.m. In addition, a few extra credit homework problems will be assigned.

Letter grades will be assigned as follows (however, it is likely that some slight curving may also take place):

450-500 points (90%): guaranteed A
400-449 points (80%): at least a B
325-399 points (65%): at least a C
300-324 points (60%): at least a D
0-299 points (below 60%): probable F.

COMMENT: Students may discuss homework problems with each other and with the instructor. Each students written subitted work must be her/his own.

MISSED WORK: Students shall be offered reasonable accommodation in the event that he or she misses an exam or is unable to turn in a homework assignment on time for a valid and documented reason. Valid reasons include official University activities, activities associated with military service, illness and family emergencies. Appropriate documentation shall be provided by the student in a timely fashion, preferably in advance, to support his or her request for accommodation.

D2L: This syllabus and some other information will be posted on D2L. Students should be sure to set their email on D2L to an address that they regularly use; certain announcements and reminders will be emailed to students using this address. However, there will be minimal use of D2L for this course.

UNIVERSITY SYLLABUS ATTACHMENT: For important dates and general information see the University Syllabus Attachment, posted on D2L.