

Math 3613: Intro to Modern Algebra, Section 001, MWF 9:30-10:20, in MS 514

Professor: Edward Richmond

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Office Hours: Tuesday 11-12:30pm, Wednesday 1:30-3pm or by appointment

Online Classroom (D2L) site: <https://oc.okstate.edu> (then log in and find our course)

Prerequisite: Math 3013

Textbooks: How to Prove It, second edition by, by Daniel Velleman and Abstract Algebra: An Introduction, third edition by Thomas Hungerford.

The aim of this course is twofold: The first goal is to teach you the logic and rigorous reasoning skills that are essential to advanced work in mathematics, physics, computer science and teaching of mathematics. You will learn the basics of mathematical logic and how to write mathematical proofs. The second goal is to study topics in modern algebra. These topics include modular arithmetic, rings and polynomial rings. These topics are the foundation for further study in areas such as cryptography, coding theory, number theory and more advanced algebra.

Syllabus Attachment: Please read the OSU syllabus attachment, linked on the web at

<https://academicaffairs.okstate.edu/sites/default/files/Fall%202015%20Syllabus.pdf>

This has a lot of important information, including instructions about disability accommodations. Please contact me privately during the first week of the course if you need accommodations as a result of a disability.

Grading:

Homework/Quizzes: 25%

Exams: 45%

Final Exam: 30%

Earning 90% guarantees an A for the semester, 80% a B, 70% a C, and 60% a D. I reserve the right to use discretion if you are on the borderline between two grades, considering performance on the final exam, improvement or decline during the semester, attendance, and my subjective judgment of your effort. I will not drop any exam scores. I will drop your lowest score from the homework/quizzes category.

Exams: All exams will be in class. The tentative hour exam dates are **Wednesday, September 23, Friday, October 30, and Monday, November 23**. I will communicate any changes in class and in writing. The final exam is on **Wednesday, December 9** from 8:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. You must tell me in writing by **Monday, November 23**, if you have a university-approved conflict with the final exam time; if you do not meet that deadline, you may not be allowed to take a conflict exam, and if you are, you will have your score decreased up to 15% as a penalty. I cannot give a conflict exam if you do not have a university-approved conflict.

Homework and Quizzes: Homework will be assigned and collected roughly once a week. You can find the assignments on the class website on D2L. You should do all the problems, but not all problems will be graded. Each assessment will be worth an equal number of points and I will drop the lowest score. On occasion, we may have short in class quizzes. Quizzes will be announced at least one lecture in advance and are worth the same as a single homework assignment.

Calculators: Calculators are not allowed on exams or quizzes. Since this class emphasizes the reading and writing of proof, calculators, for the most part, will be a little use in the class.

Conflicts: I will offer reasonable accommodation in the event that you miss a major assessment activity for a valid and documented reason, assuming documentation is provided **in advance unless absolutely impossible**.

For a quiz or exam, you need to tell me as soon as you know you have a conflict and will be ineligible for a make-up if you do not. If you won't be in class when homework is due, turn it in early or give it to someone else to turn in prior to the deadline. I require proof of the reason for your absence (e.g., a doctor's note, proof of involvement in an OSU-sponsored activity, etc.), and you should not assume you will be eligible for a make-up exam or quiz unless I have explicitly approved your request.

Academic Honesty: Don't cheat. Don't copy off of other students, allow other students to copy your work, or present work you find in printed or electronic sources as your own. You may get help on homework from other people or sources but should write your solutions independently, without looking at anything someone else has produced. **In this class, copying on quizzes or exams or allowing someone to copy off of you may result in an F! for the course. Copying or allowing someone to copy your work on homework carries a penalty of up to 10 percentage points off your semester homework grade in the first instance and an F! in the class in a second instance.** For questions, contact the Office of Academic Affairs, 101 Whitehurst, (405) 744-5627, <http://academicintegrity.okstate.edu>. I deal with cheating very harshly; don't take any chances.
