Math 4201  
Abstract Algebra II  
Spring 2010  
MWF 9:40 - 10:30 Lockett 111

Instructor: William A. Adkins  
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Class Web Site: http://www.math.lsu.edu/~adkins/m4201.html  
Office Hours:  
10:40 - 11:30 A.M. MWF  
Other times by appointment

Text


Syllabus

We will cover as much of Chapters 5 – 8 as possible.

Examinations

There will be 3 in-class exams and a 2-hour final examination. Exam dates are:

- Exam I February 19
- Exam II March 22
- Exam III April 30
- Final Exam May 14 (Friday) 10:00 - 12:00 Noon

Homework

The homework assignments and any supplementary materials for the course will be posted on the class website (http://www.math.lsu.edu/~adkins/m4201.html). You should check this website regularly for the assignments and any supplementary materials. Homework exercises are an integral part of the course and most assignments will involve writing some proofs. Do not litter your papers with spurious uses of the equal sign = and the implication symbol ⇒. All papers should be written in grammatically correct English sentences. A mathematical symbol is simply a precise shorthand for an English phrase, and thus they should be used in a sentence as though the phrase were present.

The assigned homework problems will be collected and graded. I may choose to grade only a portion of the assigned problems (due to time constraints), however you are expected to do all of the exercises. Any exercise may reappear in some fashion on an exam. Each problem will be graded on a 10 point scale, and approximately the lowest 10% of the graded exercises will be dropped before computing the homework grade, which will be the sum of the homework scores, scaled to 100 points.

Grade

Each in-class hour exam is worth 100 points, the homework is cumulatively worth 100 points, and the final exam is worth 150 points for a total possible of 550 points. Each exam and the final exam are individually curved and the dividing points between letter grades on each exam are added to get dividing points for the cumulative grade. The dividing points between letter grades for the total points will not be higher than:

- A 495
- B 440
- C 385
- D 330

Past experience indicates that the actual dividing points will be somewhat lower than these.