MAS 4301: Abstract Algebra 1, Summer C 2015 – Course Syllabus

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Course meeting place and time: 207 Little Hall, MWF2

Description. This is the first semester of the Mathematics Department’s undergraduate level course in abstract algebra. The text is the 8th edition of Gallian’s *Abstract Algebra*, and we will try to cover the first 15 chapters: group theory and an introduction to ring theory. This is an ambitious project and we will have to move fairly rapidly.

Prerequisites. MAS 4105 (Linear Algebra) is required. The student should be adept at reading and writing proofs.

Course Structure and Grading. The course grade will be based on weekly homework assignments, and 3 midterm exams. Homework will be graded for (a) completeness and (b) correctness of selected problems.

Each exam will count for 25% of the grade, and the total of the homework for the remaining 25%. When the final percentages have been computed, letter grades will be assigned as follows: A, 90-100%; B, 80-89%; C, 70-79%; D, 60-69%; E 59% or under. Plus or minus grades will be given to students within a point or two of a grade boundary. The exact grading scale may be adjusted after the second exam.

Course Policies. It is assumed that the student is familiar with the University’s Academic Honesty Policies.

Attendance will not be taken, but it is the student’s responsibility to attend classes, and to get notes for the lectures if a class must be missed.

Late homework will not be accepted. Makeups for exams must arranged in advance, except in the case of a documented medical emergency. Homework may be submitted by email; please use PDF files for this purpose.

Students requiring accommodation for disabilities must make arrangements through the office of the Dean of Students.

Please silence all cell phones.