

Math 3360 – Abstract Algebra – Spring 2024

Instructor: Dr. Marc Ordower
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Office hours: Monday 11:00 - 11:20
Tuesday 2:15 - 2:45
Thursday 11:00 - 11:20
Friday 2:15 - 2:45

And by appointment

Text: *A Book of Abstract Algebra, Second Edition* by Charles C. Pinter

Catalog Description: Groups, rings, integral domains. Homomorphisms and isomorphisms. Elementary number theory. The fields of rational, real and complex numbers.

Course Objectives: The student will gain experience reading and composing mathematical proofs. She will develop a better understanding of the relationship between the concrete and the abstract in the mathematical world.

Help: I urge you to ask questions in class. In so doing, you will help yourself and your classmates. I also hope to see many of you at office hours over the course of the term. Don't forget that you can make an appointment if you can't make my regularly scheduled office hours.

Web Page: Homework assignments, review sheets, and general course information will be posted on my web site at <http://faculty.randolphcollege.edu/mordower/math360/>

Grading: Your grade will be determined according to the following scheme.

Midterm I	Midterm II	Homework	Final Exam
20%	20 %	30%	30%

Midterms: The tentative dates for the midterm exams are as follows:

Midterm Exam I - Friday, March 29
Midterm Exam II - Tuesday, April 23

Electronics Policy: During class, you may use the calculator app on your cell phone. You may not use a cell phone for any other purpose unless you have made arrangements with me in advance. Cell phones are not permitted in final exam rooms and must be placed in the wicker basket at the front of the room during midterms, and so you will have to arrange for a dedicated calculator for exams. Laptops and tablets may be used to take notes. All other uses of a laptop or tablet are prohibited. Do not use apps or other electronic aids other than your calculator to do homework or exams unless specifically approved by me.

Calculators may be used for homework and during exams, but I doubt you will need them.

Accomodations Randolph College is committed to providing learning experiences that are accessible for all students, and will make reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented disabilities. If you have a learning difference or a disability mental health, medical, or physical impairment please contact Larvail Jones, Coordinator of Access Services, at ljones@randolphcollege.edu or 947-8132 for more information.

Academic Honesty: The honor code protects our academic community and the value of a degree from Randolph College. An instance of cheating not only reflects the perpetrator's failure to complete work honestly, but also damages the reputation of every other student at the College. Please uphold both sides of dual responsibility. Approaching a classmate about suspicion of cheating is never easy, but it is an essential part of the system. If you keep silence in the knowledge that rules have been broken, you are guilty of an honor code violation.

It goes without saying that you should never pass off someone else's work as your own. During midterm and final exams, make certain that you don't view any paper besides your own, or allow anyone else to view your work. For homework pledge problems, using someone else's solution (whether that solution is from a classmate, a solution manual, or any other source) is prohibited. Past or current copies of final exams are intended to be confidential. If you find that they are not, please report it to me right away. They should never be photographed, recorded or transmitted in any way.

I encourage you to work and study together. It can be an effective way to learn mathematics. The admonition to work alone covers homework pledge problems and exam problems only. Feel free to discuss any other problems from any other sources. If you are not certain whether or not something is allowed, please ask.

Homework: Homework is an integral part of this course and there will be an assignment due several times a week. I encourage you to work together on practice problems. You may ask assistance from me, the tutors in the Ethyl Center, or anyone else. Pledge problems must be done alone. Only the pledge problems will be submitted and graded. *You will be penalized 10% or more for a late assignment.*

As this is an upper level class, I will leave the formatting of the homework up to you. However, as solutions and proofs get increasingly complex, it is of the utmost importance that your work be well organized.

Tentative Schedule:

Week of	Chapters
March 11	1, 2, 3, 4
March 18	5, 6, 7
March 25	8, 9, Midterm I
April 1	10, 11, 12, 13
April 8	14, 15, 16
April 15	We'll see
April 22	We'll see, Midterm II

Mandated Reporting: As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I have a mandatory reporting responsibility related to my role as a faculty member. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information regarding sexual misconduct or information about a crime that may have occurred on Randolphs campus with the Colleges Title IX Coordinator, Tamara Kosic (tkosic@randolphcollege.edu). I do this to make sure that you are able to get all the information and support you may need.

The Health Center and Counseling Center staff are not mandated reporters (counselingcenter@randolphcollege.edu). As such they are not required to share information about sexual misconduct with the College and will keep your information private and confidential.