

Math 523 — Modern Algebra I

Spring 2018

Instructor Information

Instructor: Ben Salisbury, Associate Professor
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Office: Pearce 206H
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:00–2:15pm, and by appointment

Course Information

Meeting Times: TuTh 11am–12:15pm in Pearce 203
Course Text: Thomas W. Judson, *Abstract Algebra: Theory and Applications*, 2017 Edition, Orthogonal Publishing L3C, Ann Arbor, MI, 2017.
Additional References: Joseph A. Gallian, *Contemporary Abstract Algebra*, seventh ed., Brooks/Cole, Cengage Learning, Belmont, CA, 2010.
John R. Durbin, *Modern Algebra: An Introduction*, fifth ed., John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, NJ, 2005.

Objectives: Lectures will cover a good chunk of the course text; in particular, groups, rings, integral domains, fields, and fundamental homomorphism theorems. Some sections and examples may be reading assignments. Students are responsible for understanding these reading assignments and to take the initiative to communicate with the instructor if any difficulty occurs.

Homework. Homework will be assigned on a weekly basis. Each assignment will have a collection of problems, from the course text and possibly from elsewhere. However, on each assignment, only one problem will be selected to be graded (and the same problem will be selected for each student on a given assignment). Since this problem will be chosen at random, all exercises should be completed. Late homework will *not* be accepted.

Exams. There will be two midterm exams (see below) and a final exam on Thursday, May 3, 2018, 10:00–11:50am. Absolutely no make-up exams will be given without prior permission of the instructor. Validity of excuses is determined by the instructor. If an emergency happens on the day of an exam, a notice within 24 hours of the start of the scheduled exam is required in order for make up of the missed exam to be considered. All decisions about makeup exams and exceptions to the above policy are at the discretion of the instructor. No calculators are allowed in midterms and final exams.

Grading Breakdown

Homework	Weekly	20%
Exam 1	Thursday, February 8, 2018 in class	20%
Exam 2	Thursday, March 22, 2018, in class	20%
Exam 3	Thursday, April 26, 2018, in class	20%
Final Exam	Thursday, May 3, 2018, 10am–11:50am	20%

Additional Notes

- No attendance will be taken in class *but* you are responsible for knowing the material, assignments, and anything else presented and announced in class. While attendance in class is (technically) optional, be advised that your grade will most assuredly suffer from repeated absence from the lectures.
- Blackboard will be incorporated to some extent in this course. If you have a technical issue related to Blackboard, please contact the OIT Help Desk at (989) 774-3662, helpdesk.cmich.edu, or helpdesk@cmich.edu.
- CMU provides students with disabilities reasonable accommodation to participate in educational programs, activities, or services. Students with disabilities requiring accommodation to participate in class activities or meet course requirements should first register with the office of Student Disability Services (120 Park Library, telephone: 989-774-3018, TDD 989-774-2568), and then contact me as soon as possible.
- For important dates this semester campus-wide, including add-drop deadlines, see

<https://www.cmich.edu/ess/registrar/Documents/calendars/Calendar%20-%20Template%20Spring%202018.pdf>