

Math 351 – Modern Algebra 1

Prof. Ballantine

Spring 2020

Course Times and Location

TTh 12:30 - 1:45 PM in Swords 359

Instructor Information

Professor: Cristina Ballantine *Office:* Swords 323 *Office Phone:* 793-3940

e-mail: cballant@holycross.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Tuesdays 11:00 AM– 12:00 PM

Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Text

Joseph A. Gallian - *Contemporary Abstract Algebra, Seventh Edition*, Brooks/Cole 2010

We will cover Chapters 1–11 and time permitting 24–26.

Web site

<http://mathcs.holycross.edu/~cballant/math351-s20/math351-s20.html>

Grading Policy

Two tests – 25% for your highest test score, 20% for your lowest test score

Final exam – 25%

Written homework – 20%

Participation and in class presentations of homework problems – 10%

- The midterms are scheduled tentatively for Wednesday, **February 26** and Wednesday, **April 15**. Smith Labs 154, 6:00 - 7:45pm. The exams will be designed to take about one hour but you will be allowed 90 minutes.
- The final exam will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office and it is cumulative. The date for the final exam will be posted on STAR. Please do not make travel plans that conflict with the exam date.
- There will be approximately ten homework assignments due each Thursday (except for the test weeks) at the beginning of class. The assignments will be posted on the web site of the course. **NO** late assignments will be accepted without a serious *documented* reason. Should this happen, you need to contact me **before** the homework is due. You will hand in clearly written up solutions to the starred problems. A small subset of these problems will be graded. Solutions to all problems will be provided. **It is a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy to share these solutions with anyone.**

On Thursdays, a few students will present solutions to selected problems. I will ask for volunteers via email on Wednesday afternoon.

Attendance

Attendance is important to me and could make a difference in the grade in border line cases.

Academic Honesty

Both the College's and the Department's policies on academic integrity must be observed. The College's policy can be found at

https://www.holycross.edu/sites/default/files/Registrar/academic_integrity_policy.pdf

and the Department's policy can be found at

<https://www.holycross.edu/academics/programs/mathematics-and-computer-science/node/211581/academic-integrity>

The problem sets are your chance to work through ideas and course concepts in a low-risk setting. It's far more important to learn from your mistakes on the problem sets than it is to get a high score on each assignment. Please treat written work accordingly. Don't closely mimic your classmates' work just for the sake of getting a few more homework points. This bad habit will likely result in low exam grades.

You are allowed to and encouraged to engage in *honest collaboration* with your classmates on the problem sets. Write up the first draft of each problem set entirely on your own. Let the ideas sit for a day or two. Then meet with one or two classmates and compare your ideas.

Do **not** exchange written work with classmates; doing so constitutes *dishonest collaboration*.

In submitting written work for grading, you implicitly certify that the work is written **in your own words**. (This does not mean you have made a few minor changes of word choice, but that you have understood the ideas and explained them in terms natural to you, personally.)

You must **acknowledge by name** any classmates you worked with by writing "I worked with ..." at the top of your assignment.

Except for resources I distribute in class or by email, **you may not use Internet resources or printed solutions of any kind** in this course.

No collaboration is allowed on midterms and on the final exam.

Academic Accommodations: Any student who feels the need for accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services to discuss support services available. Once the office receives documentation supporting the request for accommodation, the student would meet privately with Disability Services to discuss reasonable and appropriate accommodations. The office can be reached by calling 508-793-3693 or by visiting Hogan Campus Center, room 215A.

If you are already registered with Disability Services, please be sure to get your accommodation letters and deliver them to your instructors in a timely fashion. Instructors need 4-5 days advance notice to be able to facilitate the process of receiving testing accommodations.

Cell Phone Policy

If your cell phone rings during class or I see you texting, I will deduct 1% from your final grade. The only exceptions are emergencies. If your cell phone rings during class and you bring a note from the class dean documenting the emergency, the 1% policy does not apply.