

Math 30b, Introduction to Algebra, Part II

Spring 2009

Venue: Goldsmith 116

Time: MW 3:30-5, Block L.

Instructor: Bong Lian

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Office Hours: MW 1-2 or by appointment

I will use the course mailing list, *091math-30b-1@lists.brandeis.edu*, to communicate with you from time to time. You may send comments or questions that you think will be of general interest to the whole class. Do not reply to a message sent to this list unless you want the whole class to receive your reply.

Course Description

Textbook: *A First Course In Abstract Algebra, Seventh edition*, by John B. Fraleigh. It is the same book that was used in Math 30a in Fall 2008. There may be delay in delivery of this book to the Brandeis Bookstore. If you can't find it there, you can get it from online vendors such as Amazon.com.

Topics we plan to cover include

Ideals and factor rings (Part V)

Field extensions (Part VI)

Sylow theorems and abelian groups (Part VII)

Unique factorization domains (Part IX)

*Galois theory (Part X)

*if time permits.

Grading

Late homework will be accepted with a 25% penalty, up to one week after the due date. Homework more than one week late will not be accepted. Students who miss a test (or exam) will not be granted a make-up test (or exam) unless there is a documented medical or other emergencies.

Grades will be based on homework, two 1-hour quizzes (in class), and a final exam (scheduled by the registrar for this time block), weighted as follows:

Homework	30%	
Quizzes	20% each	Wed Feb 25* and Wed Apr 1
Final Exam	30%	Take home

*Please note new date.

Policies

Homework policy: You may discuss the homework problems with other students in the class; however, if you do, you should write on your homework submission the students with whom you discussed the assignment. You do not need to mention any help you received from the TA or instructor. **You may not copy the written work of another student or allow another student to copy your written work. What you submit should be your own work.**

If you are a student with a documented disability on record at Brandeis University and wish to have a reasonable accomodation made for you in this class, please see me immediately.

Advice

I recommend the following strategy: Prepare before each class. That means you should read (carefully!) the sections to be covered *before* coming to class. Try the exercises in the book even though you may not be able to get them all. Having *thought through* the material by yourself makes it a lot easier for you to understand the lectures and ask questions in class. It is also a very economical way to learn mathematics. For every hour you spend preparing before class, the pay-off could be a saving of two to three hours after class.