COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Louiza Fouli
Office: WH 214
Email: lfouli@math.nmsu.edu
Telephone: 575-646-2201
Website: http://www.math.nmsu.edu/~lfouli
Course Website: http://www.math.nmsu.edu/~lfouli/courses/spring12/math331/index.html
Class Time: Tues-Thu: 1:10-2:25pm SH 110
Office Hours: Tuesdays 11am-12pm
Wednesdays 10am-12pm
Or by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course aims to introduce students to groups, rings, and fields. These are basic building blocks in various branches of mathematics, and crucial ingredients in many applications. We will cover approximately two thirds of chapters 1–4, with a few additional topics as time permits.

PREREQUISITES:

Grade C or better in both Math 279 and Math 280. You should be able to read and understand definitions and theorems. You should be able to follow mathematical proofs, and to prove small theorems on your own.

TEXTBOOK:


ASSIGNMENTS, EXAMS AND GRADES:

HOMEWORK:

I will assign homework on a weekly basis. Assignments will typically be due on Thursdays at the beginning of class. **No late homework will be accepted.** The homework assignments will be announced in class and posted on the course website as well as blackboard: http://learn.nmsu.edu

QUIZZES:

There will be 5 quizzes during the semester. The tentative dates are: 1/31, 2/14, 3/13, 4/3, 4/26. The material you would be responsible for each quiz will be announced in class, on blackboard, and on the course website in advance.

PRESENTATIONS:

You will be responsible for presenting solutions to homework problems in class. Everyone should aim to present a few times during the semester. Your score and comments about each presentation will be given to you after your presentation. If you would like to improve your score you may schedule an appointment with me to present another problem to me in my office.
EXAMS:
There will be two midterm exams given throughout the semester. The tentative dates for the exams are:

**Exam 1:** March 1st  
**Exam 2:** April 19th

If you have a conflict with the exam times, let me know immediately.

FINAL EXAM:
The final exam will be cumulative. It is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 8th, 1pm–3pm.**

GRADES:
I will use the following allocation for calculating your final grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Exams</td>
<td>20% each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your final (letter) grade will be determined approximately by the usual 90-80-70-60 % cut-offs of a total numerical grade. The instructor reserves the right to modify the grading scale if considered appropriate. Changes (if any) would be in the students’ benefit. The grades will be posted on blackboard throughout the semester.

COURSE POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE:
It is your responsibility to attend class. I expect you to arrive on time and to remain for the full class period.

EXTRA CREDIT WORK:

There will be **NO** extra credit work offered in this course. Therefore, plan accordingly to meet the specified requirements in order to pass this course.

COMMUNICATION:
I plan to use e-mail as the main communication tool. Please make sure you check your official nmsu e-mail often or have your e-mail forwarded to an e-mail account you check often.

WITHDRAWALS AND INCOMPLETES:
You have the primary responsibility for withdrawing from the course. I will authorize the secretary in the Math Office (SH 236) to sign drop slips for me, in case I am not available. The last day to drop a course online (not recorded on academic record) is **January 30th, 2012.** The last date to drop with a “W” is **March 12, 2012.** The last day to withdraw from the University is **Friday, April 20, 2012.** Under university policy the letter grade “I” is allowed only if a student has passed the first half of the course, and is precluded from completion of the second half of the course by a documented illness or family crisis.
ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

It is assumed that you have familiarized yourself with the portion of the student handbook and catalog pertaining to academic misconduct. Please be aware that such misconduct, including but not limited to plagiarism, is subject to disciplinary action. Students should note that both intentional and unintentional plagiarism is prohibited. Students may refer to the following websites for more information. The current University definition of plagiarism can be found at:  
http://www.nmsu.edu/%7Evpsa/SCOC/misconduct.html

DISCRIMINATION:

Feel free to call Gerard Nevarez, Director of Institutional Equity at 575-646-3635 with any questions you may have about NMSUs Non-discrimination Policy and complaint of discrimination, including sexual harassment.

DISABILITIES:

If you have, or believe you have a disability, you may contact the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) Office located in Corbett Center, Room 244, 575-646-6840, or email sas@nmsu.edu. Appropriate accommodations may then be provided for you. All medical information will be treated confidentially. If you have a condition which may affect your ability to exit safely from the premises in an emergency during class, you are encouraged to discuss this in confidence with the instructor and/or the Director of University Disability Services/ADA Coordinator, Diana Quintana, at the SAS Office. Questions regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the American with Disabilities Amendment Act and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 should be directed to the SAS Office.