

# Modern Algebra

## Fall 2015

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Instructor: Hugh Nelson Howards

Phone: x5352

OH's: Tu 10:30–11:20, Th 11:00–11:50, Fr 1:00–1:50

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**Office hours:** I have scheduled a variety of hours for students to come talk to me (listed above). I strongly encourage you to come to them. You are welcome to come for any reason, I want this class to be as personal as possible. I also welcome appointments outside of office hours- feel free to set up an appointment in class, by phone, or by e-mail.

**Course Content:** In this course we study Abstract Algebra, one of the central fields in advanced mathematics!

**Text:** Gallian, Joseph: *Contemporary Abstract Algebra*, eighth edition.

Quizzes and Homework	15%
Class Participation	5%
Exam One, 10/1	25%
Exam Two, 11/5	25%
Final Exam, 12/7, 9:00 am	30%

**Quizzes:** A series of short quizzes will be based on class discussions, readings, and homework and will be used to prepare students for the exam. The quizzes may be in class or at times take home.

**Exams:** Exam questions will be based on class discussions, readings, and homework. There may be a take home portion.

**Attendance:** Attendance is required. Class participation will be an essential part of this course. Unlike most math classes this course is not meant to be a lecture class. Students will play a large role in determining the direction the course goes through their questions, comments, and suggestions. Students' final grades in the class go down if they miss more than three classes. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYTHING SAID IN CLASS, AND THIS MAY INCLUDE CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS** (an extra exam might be added or the dates might be changed, for example), so if you do have to miss class be certain that you find out what happened in class that day.

**Pandemic plan:** In case of pandemic read one chapter per week. Do all odd exercise and check your answers. Do all exercises of the form  $4n - 2$  and mail them to me or email them to me every other week.

**Cell Phones, Pagers, ...:** Do not bring cell phones or pagers to class. If a student's cell phone, pager, or other electronic device goes off in class the student's final grade in the course will drop by one letter grade. In case of extreme circumstances a student may ask for permission to bring a cell phone to class otherwise there will be no leniency in the enforcement of this policy.

**Honor System:** It is expected that each student in this class will conduct him or herself within the guidelines of the Honor System.