Math 302 – Applied Modern Algebra  
Fall 2018

Course Meetings: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:00 – 8:50 in 110 Hume Hall  
Instructor: Dr. Laura Sheppardson  
Office: 305 Hume Hall  
Phone: (662) 915-1463  
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 10:00 – 11:00, or by appointment  
E-mail: Sheppard@olemiss.edu

Texts
Mathematics, A Discrete Introduction, by Edward R. Scheinerman, any edition  
Also recommended: Discrete and Combinatorial Mathematics, by Ralph Grimaldi

Topics
By the end of this course, you should be able to

- define the four basic properties of an abstract group, determine whether a set and operation satisfy these properties, and use them to prove other facts about groups
- perform calculations using modular arithmetic, including finding multiplicative inverses and solving simultaneous linear equations
- explain the theoretical basis for public key encryption, and apply (simplified versions of) both Rabin’s method and RSA algorithms
- apply Polya enumeration methods to examples involving symmetry groups
- perform addition and subtraction of sequences and abstract power series
- write recurrence relations to model counting problems, and solve linear recurrence relations
- use basic ordinary and exponential generating functions to solve counting problems

Coverage of these topics will include sections 22, 26, 27, and 34-45 of the 2nd edition Scheinerman text. Extensive material supplemental to the required textbook will be provided.

Blackboard
You will use the Blackboard online course system to get course assignments and supplemental materials, take quizzes, monitor your grades, and communicate with classmates. Login at blackboard.olemiss.edu. You can find basic instructions for using the system at www.olemiss.edu/blackboard

Homework and Quizzes
You are expected to work all assigned problems, although not all will be graded. Practice problems will be given for each lecture. You should work as many of the recommended problems as you can before the next class period. This way you can ask useful questions before moving on to new material.

You will be notified in advance of homework problems selected for grading. These will be graded on both content and presentation. No late homework will be accepted. You are encouraged to form study groups and to discuss homework problems with your classmates. However, the work you turn in must be your own. That is, everything you write must be in your own words, and you need to understand everything you have written.

Quizzes may be given both in class and on Blackboard. No collaboration is allowed.

Tests
There will be three (3) in-class tests. All will be closed-book. You may use a simple 4-function calculator if you so choose. No other electronic devices will be needed or allowed. Make-up tests will not be given except when a student is absent for an official University function, for which written documentation has been provided. If you must miss a test, you should notify me before the scheduled test time. The final exam will be cumulative, and will also be closed book with only basic calculators.
Grade Calculation
Your overall grade will be based on the following point total:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework and quizzes</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best two (2) tests</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>200</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Minimum grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>465</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>450</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>435</td>
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<td>415</td>
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<td>350</td>
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<td>300</td>
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Remember that grades lower than C in mathematics courses will not be counted toward the mathematics major for the B.A. or B.S. degree.

Tentative Schedule
These are subject to change. You will be notified of any changes at least one week before the actual test.

- Friday, September 21: Test 1 Modular Arithmetic, Groups, Encryption
- Friday, October 19: Test 2 Symmetry, Polya Enumeration, Generating Functions
- Friday, November 16: Test 3 Recurrence Relations
- Monday, December 3 at 8AM: Final Exam

Regrading
If you believe a problem has been graded in error, you must submit a regrade request in writing, along with your paper, no more than one week after that test or assignment is returned in class (or after a grade is recorded for an online assignment). Do not change or add to the work on your paper. Make any necessary notes on a separate sheet.

Attendance
Attendance will be recorded for informational purposes. You are responsible for any material, assignments, or announcements that you miss if absent from a class. No special accommodations (e.g. copies of lecture notes, make-up tests, etc.) will be provided. (You are encouraged to come to office hours if you have questions on what you missed.) The only exception to this policy is for participation in a University function, documented in advance of the event. Excessive absences may result in the student being dropped from or failing the course.

Cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices which might cause disruption should be turned off or silenced before class begins.

Academic Misconduct
You are expected to abide by the guidelines for academic honesty given in the M-Book. Sanctions for academic misconduct may include grade reduction, extra work, failure of the course, suspension, expulsion, or a combination of these sanctions. Academic misconduct includes presenting for grading anything which is not your own original work, using unapproved sources for any assignment or test, allowing someone else to copy your work for a graded assignment, or asking for a regrade of a paper that has been altered from its original form. If you study with other students or a tutor, do not look at notes from that study when you write homework to be graded. If you have any doubts about whether something is proper, ask.

Special Needs
It is University policy to provide, on a flexible and individual basis, reasonable classroom accommodations to students who have verified disabilities that may affect their ability to participate in course activities or meet course requirements. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the instructor to discuss their individual needs for accommodations.