

Mathematics 546/701I, Algebraic Structures I.
Section 001, Fall 2009.

Instructor: Matthew Boylan.
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Office hours: Mon., 2:30 - 3:30; Tues., 1 - 2; Thurs., 10 - 11; and by appointment.

- **Course Webpage:**

<http://www.math.sc.edu/~boylan/SCCourses/546Fa09/546.html>

- **Prerequisite:** Math 241.

- **Text:** Beachy and Blair. Abstract Algebra, 3rd ed., Waveland Press, 2006.

- **Course objectives:** Students will master concepts and solve problems on permutation and abstract groups, subgroups, quotient groups, homomorphisms, isomorphisms, direct products, and rings. This course is the first of a two-semester sequence.

- **Class schedule:** You are expected to be present at all class meetings.

Lecture : MWF 10:10 - 11:00 LeConte 303B

In accordance with official USC policy, a grade penalty may be applied to any student missing more than 3 classes (10%) during the semester.

- **Homework:** Problem sets will be assigned each week and will be due the following Wednesday. They may be turned in before class on Wednesdays or to my mailbox any time before 3 pm on the due date. **Late homework will not be accepted.** Some of the assigned problems will be graded. You will be graded on both the correctness of your solutions and the quality of your exposition (i.e., how well you write the solution). You are encouraged to discuss problems with other students in the class. **However, you must write solutions to the problems yourself (in your own words).**

- **Exam schedule:** (3 one-hour exams and a cumulative final exam)

Exam 1 :	Friday	September 18	10:10 - 11:00	LeConte 303B
Exam 2 :	Wednesday	October 21	10:10 - 11:00	LeConte 303B
Exam 3 :	Friday	November 20	10:10 - 11:00	LeConte 303B
Final exam :	Tuesday	December 8	9:00 - 12:00	LeConte 303B

Missed exams will not be made up. Exceptions may be made for **documented** illness/family emergency.

- **Calculators:** Calculators (and computer software such as Maple) may be used on homework unless otherwise noted. They may not be used to do quizzes or exams.

- **Other policies:**

- (1) Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be **turned off or put on silent or vibrate mode** during class meetings.
- (2) Homework and exam grades may be discussed only up to 7 days after being returned.

- **Grading:**

Three hour exams :	100 pts. x 3	15% x 3
Final exam :	200 pts.	30%
Homework :	150 pts.	25%
Total :	650 pts.	100%

Graduate credit: Students enrolled in 701I will be required to complete a term project due at the end of the semester.

Letter grades will be given according to the following approximate scale:

A	B	C	D	F
90 – 100	80 – 90	70 – 80	60 – 70	0 – 60

Note: The deadline to drop a course without a WF is Thursday, October 1.

- **Other help resources:**

Math Lab :	LC 105; The schedule should be on the door.
Private tutor list :	http://www.math.sc.edu/mathlab/private/
546 websites from past semesters :	http://www.math.sc.edu/courses.html

- Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time if you have questions or problems relating to this course. Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive semester!