MATH 3110 - ABSTRACT ALGEBRA  
Fall, 2007

Instructor:  Dr. Mark Budden  
Office:  289 University Hall  
Phone:  (912)927-5288  
E-mail:  Mark.Budden@armstrong.edu  
URL:  www.math.armstrong.edu/faculty/budden  
Office Hours:  Mondays 1:00-3:50, Wednesdays 2:00-3:50,  
or by appointment.


Other Materials:  Every student will be expected to have a calculator. You will not  
be allowed to share calculators with other students during exams.

Prerequisites:  Math 2083 and Math 3000

Description/Purpose of Course:  The purpose of this course is to introduce students  
to the subject of modern algebra. The main focus of the course will be to investigate the  
basic theory of the algebraic structures known as groups and rings. More specifically, we  
will study their important substructures, the structure-preserving maps, quotients, and  
many examples. The course will rely heavily on each student’s ability to write thorough  
proofs.

Exams:  There will be 3 in-class exams (100 points each) and one comprehensive final  
exam (200 points). No make-up exams will be given for any reason. If a student misses  
an exam for an excused reason, then their final exam will count for 300 points to make up  
the missing points. A missed exam will be considered excused only if all of the following  
conditions are met:

1. I am notified of the absence prior to the exam,  
2. The excuse is legitimate: illness, death of a family member, etc. . . ,  
3. I am provided with the proper documentation.

Homework:  A homework assignment will be given each class over the material covered  
that day. While I will not grade homework, many fundamental concepts are presented  
in the homework that are essential to your understanding of the subject. Additionally,  
homework problems give you the opportunity to practice and perfect your proof-writing  
skills. It is your responsibility to keep up with the assigned homework and see me outside  
of class if you have any questions.
**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all classes. If a class is missed, it is the student’s responsibility to find out about missed material. Attendance will be taken for the first two weeks of class so that I can determine who is enrolled. There is usually a high correlation between students that attend all classes and students that perform well on exams.

**Withdrawal:** If a student wishes to withdraw from the course, s/he must come and speak with me. If a student withdraws after late registration and by midterm, they will receive a W. Any student withdrawing after midterm will receive a WF.

**ADA Accommodations:** Any student who may require special accommodations due to a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services in the Division of Student Affairs and should come and speak with me privately as soon as possible. I will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide accommodations according to their documented needs.

**AASU Honor Code:** The University’s policies in regards to the Honor Code and Code of Conduct will be upheld in this class (see catalog p.308).

**Other:** This class is an introduction to modern algebra, and like other courses in pure mathematics, you will be expected to provide rigorous arguments justifying your work. All proofs should be clearly written in complete sentences. If you are questioning whether or not a step should be included, then include it. Do not be afraid to waste paper (see me in my office if you want a stack of scratch paper) or spend too much time on homework problems. Some problems may only require a few minutes, while others may take an hour or more. The more effort you put into the homework, the better understanding you will have of the subject.

* If you bring a cell phone to class, then it must be turned OFF! Note that vibration mode is not the same as off.

**Grade Distribution:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Letter Grades will be assigned on a standard 10-point scale (100% – 90% A, 89% – 80% B, 79% – 70% C, 69% – 60% D, 59% – 0% F).