

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

ADVANCED ABSTRACT ALGEBRA      MAT 592      SPRING 2014 SYLLABUS

**Time and Place** TR 11:00–12:15 Petty 007

**Instructor** Dr. Igor V. Erovenko

**Office** Petty 106

**Office Hours** T 12:30–2:00, R 3:30–4:30, and by appointment

**E-mail** igor@uncg.edu

**Prerequisites** Grade of at least C in MAT 516.

**For Whom Planned** This course is intended for first year graduate students and advanced undergraduate students. The sequence 591–592 leads towards the PhD qualifying examination in algebra.

**Catalog Description** Groups: homomorphisms, quotient groups, products of groups, Sylow theorems, finitely generated abelian groups. Rings: homomorphisms, ideals, quotient rings, integral domains, Euclidean domains, factorization. Fields: algebraic extensions of fields, Galois theory.

**Student Learning Outcomes** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- ⇒ *Define* various notions associated with rings and fields;
- ⇒ *give examples* of Euclidean domains, principal ideal domains, unique factorization domains, normal and separable extensions of fields;
- ⇒ *compute* Galois groups of polynomials;
- ⇒ *compare* and *contrast* normal and non-normal field extensions, separable and inseparable field extensions, algebraic and non-algebraic field extensions;
- ⇒ *combine* different methods to prove insolvability of the quintic;
- ⇒ *categorize* factorization properties in commutative rings;
- ⇒ *support* and *justify* statements with rigorous mathematical arguments.

**Teaching Methods and Assignments for Achieving Learning Outcomes** The course material will be presented via traditional lectures. Achievement of learning outcomes will be facilitated via

- ⇒ weekly homework assignments;
- ⇒ tests and a comprehensive final examination.

**Evaluation and Grading** The following weight distribution is going to be used to determine your final grades:

|            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| Homework   | 40%                   |
| Tests      | 30% (two at 15% each) |
| Final Exam | 30%                   |

The following grading scale will be used to determine the final letter grades for undergraduate students:

|    |        |    |       |    |       |    |       |   |          |
|----|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|---|----------|
| A+ | 97–100 | B+ | 87–89 | C+ | 77–79 | D+ | 67–69 |   |          |
| A  | 93–96  | B  | 83–86 | C  | 73–76 | D  | 63–66 | F | below 60 |
| A– | 90–92  | B– | 80–82 | C– | 70–72 | D– | 60–62 |   |          |

The following grading scale will be used to determine the final letter grades for graduate students:

|    |        |    |       |    |       |   |          |
|----|--------|----|-------|----|-------|---|----------|
|    |        | B+ | 87–89 | C+ | 77–79 |   |          |
| A  | 93–100 | B  | 83–86 | C  | 70–76 | F | below 70 |
| A– | 90–92  | B– | 80–82 |    |       |   |          |

**Required Texts** The following book is required and will be used as a reference text:

- ⇒ David S. Dummit and Richard M. Foote, *Abstract Algebra*, 3rd edition, Wiley, 2003.

The following books are recommended for supplementary reading:

- ⇒ Nathan Jacobson, *Basic Algebra I*, 2nd edition, Dover Publications, 2009;  
⇒ Joseph J. Rotman, *Advanced Abstract Algebra*, 2nd edition, American Mathematical Society, 2010;  
⇒ Thomas W. Hungerford, *Algebra*, Springer, 1980;  
⇒ Serge Lang, *Algebra*, 3rd edition, Springer, 2002.

**Topical Outline/Calendar** Below is a tentative calendar for the course. Test markers indicate topic cut offs rather than actual test dates.

| Week | Material Covered  |
|------|---|
| 1    | Euclidean domains.  |
| 2    | Principal ideal domains; unique factorization domains.                    |
| 3    | Polynomial rings.   |
| 4    | Factorization in polynomial rings; irreducible polynomials. <b>Test 1</b> |
| 5    | Extensions of fields.   |
| 6    | Algebraic extensions.   |
| 7    | Splitting fields; algebraic closure; normal extensions.                   |
| 8    | Separable extensions; field automorphisms.                                |
| 9    | Galois extensions.  |
| 10   | The Fundamental Theorem of Galois Theory. <b>Test 2</b>                   |
| 11   | Finite fields; composite extensions and simple extensions.                |
| 12   | The fundamental theorem of algebra; cyclotomic extensions.                |
| 13   | Cyclic extensions; Galois groups of polynomials.                          |
| 14   | Solvable and radical extensions, insolvability of the quintic.            |

**Academic Integrity Policy** Students are expected to adhere to the UNCG *Academic Integrity Policy* available at <http://academicintegrity.uncg.edu>. You are allowed to collaborate on homework assignments, but you are required to *write down the solution in your own words* and to properly acknowledge the sources of your ideas. You are not allowed to collaborate on tests!

**Attendance Policy** Regular class attendance is mandatory. Two consecutive absences or four total absences during the semester may result in student being dropped from the course. Any student who is more than 5 minutes late for class or leaves early is counted as absent. If you miss a class you are responsible for the material covered and for any assignments made. Due date of work is not different if you have been absent.

**Final Examination** There will be a comprehensive final examination on Thursday, May 1, 12:00–3:00 pm.