Math 3354/5654: Survey of Algebra

Fall Term, 2013, Section 2, TuTh 11–12:15, Physics Bldg 205

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Office Hours:	M 2-3 pm, Th 10:00-11:00, or drop in any time
Book:	Elements of Modern Algebra, 7th edition, J. Gilbert and L. Gilbert

Information: This course will be an introduction to algebra. We will try to get through as much of the book as possible. Topics include basic number theory, groups, rings and fields. Modern algebra is probably the most abstract course one can take as an undergraduate. It will be a proof-based course. I will assume you know some basic language from set theory as in the first chapter of the book.

Homework: In general, homework will be will be assigned once per week. Assignments will be posted on the course webpage. Please staple your homework. LATE HOMEWORK IS NOT ACCEPTED FOR ANY REASON. To compensate, your three lowest homework scores will be thrown out in computing your final homework total. Usually grading will be based on 40 points; 30 points for three randomly chosen problems to grade, and 10 points for completion of the whole assignment. Extra credit problems will occasionally be given.

Exams: There will be two in-class exams, and a comprehensive final exam. In adddition, there might be quizzes given once a week, but that will be decided during semester.

Grading: The final is worth 400 points, each in-class test will be worth worth 200 points, and the homework will be scaled to be worth 200. The total number of points is 1000. If quizzes are given, the points will be slightly redistributed. Your final grade will be based on the percentage of points you have out of the 1000 possible points.

Final Exam: The final exam schedule is set by the university. Make note of this date: our final exam is on Tuesday, December 17, from 9 am –noon. DO NOT PLAN YOUR TRAVEL IN SUCH A WAY THAT YOU WILL MISS THE FINAL!!