Math 335: Abstract Algebra I, Fall 2013

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12:10-1:00pm, Hayes Hall 203
www2.kenyon.edu/Depts/Math/Smith

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Textbooks
A First Course in Abstract Algebra, Seventh Edition, by John B. Fraleigh.

Prerequisites
Math 222 (Foundations). Please see me to discuss your situation if you have not met this requirement.

Office Hours
TBA – I will arrange to have office hours at times which are convenient for the entire class. I will be available for questions in office hours and by appointment. You are encouraged to take advantage of office hours even if you are not struggling with current material so that you can learn from the questions of others or explore the material on a deeper level.

Software
We will be making use of the system GAP (Groups, Algorithms, Programming) on occasion for homework and/or projects in this course. The basics of how to use the system will be covered within the course. GAP is an exceptionally powerful system for computational discrete algebra and it is free to use! It will be a worthwhile endeavor to use the system to become more familiar with certain aspects of group theory, to prepare for potential future work or studies within the mathematical community, and to have some fun!

Grades
Grades for this course will be assigned based on the following components.

Written homework	20%
Presentations, class participation, quizzes	15%
Two midterms	40%
Final Exam	25%

The two midterms will involve an in-class portion and a take-home portion. The final exam will be solely a take-home exam. The final exam is due no later than 4:30pm on Friday, December 20th (the end of our scheduled exam time).

Expectations
Class will start on time. Please do not bring food to class. If we use computers during class time, you are expected to use them in a way that is consistent with appropriate use as described in the Appropriate Use of Information Services section of the Library and Computing Policies document (http://www.kenyon.edu/x11746#x13588).

Homework
Solutions should be clearly written and should use complete sentences and correct grammar. Part of a successful and complete assignment is communicating your work to your reader. Homework will be a combination of computational problems and proof-writing. Remember when you write proofs that the proof tactic, the overall correctness, and your wording are all important! Assignments will be evaluated based on neatness, correctness, and completeness.

All assignments must be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. Absolutely no late work will be accepted. Exceptions may be made for special circumstances and/or excused absences, but you are required to give appropriate notice. In general, if you know that you will be missing class for some reason, you should turn in your assignment *before* you leave.

Course Materials
Video and audio recordings of classes are not permitted. Course materials are also not to be posted on any shared networks or Internet sites.

Communication
The best way to communicate with me is during office hours or via email. I will respond to emails within 48 hours.

Academic Honesty
Please show respect to your classmates and to me by consistently doing your own work. You are encouraged to work together on homework, but you are expected to **write-up each assignment on your own.** If you submit work that contains the ideas or words of someone else, make sure to cite sources appropriately in your work. The course policy on academic honesty is the same as that of Kenyon College (http://www.kenyon.edu/x11747.xml).

Disabilities
If you have a disability and may need academic accommodations, please make an appointment to see me as soon as possible. In addition, you are required to register for support services with the Office of Disability Services in the Olin Library, Center for Innovative Pedagogy. Please contact Erin Salva at x5453 or email salvae@kenyon.edu.