INTRODUCTION TO ABSTRACT MATHEMATICS MAT108

SYLLABUS FALL 2018

Professor: Roger Casals - casals@ucdavis.edu.

Teaching Assistant: Jiawei Wang - wangjw@math.ucdavis.edu.

Class schedule: Lectures MWF 3-4h at Haring Hall 2016 by Roger Casals. Recitations take place on Tuesdays 3pm (Section 1) and 4pm (Section 2) at Clark Kerr Hall 293 and are led by our Teaching Assistant Jiawei Wang.

Email. My email address is casals@ucdavis.edu. This is the fastest way to contact me. I am happy to answer questions via email, and it also tends to be helpful to set up appointments to meet in person, you are welcome to do either.

Office Hours. My office is MSB 3214, in the Mathematical Sciences Building, five minutes away from the lectures. My regular office hours are 2:00–3:00pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. Feel free to come and discuss the material on the Lectures and the Problem Sets. If you are planning to come with a large group (more than six), I can book a seminar room if you let me know in advance.

Course. This course is an introduction to abstract mathematics with an emphasis on rigor and proofs. Learning how to come up with proofs and writing them up in a clear and rigorous manner will be one of our main goals. It is primarily for students with no prior experience with this.

Textbook. We will use “The Art of Proof” by M. Beck and R. Geoghegan.

Course Website. I will be maintaining the course website at the following URL

"https://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~casals/Fall18MAT108.html",

whose content includes this syllabus, the weekly assigned Problem Sets, Math Diary on the material covered in each lecture, and additional materials. The grades for the assignments and the exams will be administered through the UC Davis Canvas.

Grade. Final Class Grade = 0.4·PSets + 0.4·Final Exam + 0.2·Midterm.
Assignments. The weekly assignments are due on Monday and should be handed directly to me at the beginning of class. The assignments will be posted in the course website as the course progresses. The lowest two grades will be dropped.

You are allowed to ask for two unexcused extensions directly to me (R. Casals). Late homework will not be accepted under any other circumstances. Use these extensions wisely and I encourage you to directly talk to me about the benefits and drawbacks of using extensions.

Exams. There will be an in-class one-hour Midterm on Friday Oct 26 and a Final Exam on Monday December 10, at 8am on the first day of the Finals Week.

The Midterm Test and the Final Exam will strictly follow the given date and time. There will be no make-up exams. So, please plan your schedule accordingly. Electronic devices, notes and books are not permitted during the exams. Please bring your UC Davis Student ID to the Exam Hall.


Disabilities If you need special accommodation, please let me know, ideally in advance. The Student Disability Center (SDC) is here to help, and they can do so if you contact them.

Please be aware of the following message by the SDC:

"Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Student Disability Center (SDC). Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the SDC. If you have any questions, please contact the SDC at 530-752-3184 or sdc@ucdavis.edu."