Fundamentals of Algebraic Structures MATE 3304.02I (61990)

Syllabus

Semester: Summer I 2018
Classes: Monday - Friday 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm (ELABN 117)
Instructor: Professor Dr. Paul-Hermann Zieschang
Phone: 956-665-7063
Email: paulhermann.zieschang@utrgv.edu
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 11:20 am - 12:20 pm (MAGC 3.734)

Textbook: A textbook will not be required, instead a pdf-file will be distributed containing all necessary material.

Course Description and Prerequisites: This is a classroom-based mathematics content course for future educators that will involve you in mathematics instruction using strategies such as: mathematics lectures, mathematical investigations, mathematics problem explorations and problem solving, and mathematics peer-teaching. Some of the activities may be appropriate for you to use in the future in your own classroom, other activities may be useful for your pure mathematical challenge and enrichment. My major concern is what you should know in order to be an effective middle school mathematics teacher. Prerequisites: MATH 1351 with a grade of ‘C’ or better.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes for the Course: Students completing MATE 3304 will understand definitions, axioms, and theorems concerning algebraic structures such as groups, rings, and fields; apply algebraic concepts to solve problems in which their use is fundamental to obtaining and understanding the solution; make connections between algebraic structures and other areas of mathematics (such as college algebra, linear algebra, number theory, and geometry) as well as areas outside of mathematics (such as art and chemistry); read and write proofs of results involving algebraic structures; and make connections between abstract algebraic structures and school algebra.

Grading Policies: UTRGV’s grading policy is to use straight letter grades (A, B, C, D, or F). Oral participation and homework: 40%, midterm(s): 40%, final examination: 20%. Late work will be not considered. Missing a class without explanation in advance will affect the grade.

Calendar of Activities: The UTRGV academic calendar can be found on the
webpage https://my.utrgv.edu/home at the bottom of the screen, prior to login. Some important dates for Summer I 2018 include: June 4, First day of classes; June 5, Last day to add a course or register for summer I 2018; June 28, Last day to drop a course; will count toward the 6-drop rule; July 4, Independence Day, Holiday - NO classes; July 9, Study Day - NO class; July 10, Summer I 2018 Final Exams.

UTRGV Policy Statements: The UTRGV disability accommodation, mandatory course evaluation statement and sexual harassment statement are required on all syllabi. Additional policy statements are optional, such as those covering attendance, academic integrity, and course drop policies.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students with a documented disability (physical, psychological, learning, or other disability which affects academic performance) who would like to receive academic accommodations should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) as soon as possible to schedule an appointment to initiate services. Accommodations can be arranged through SAS at any time, but are not retroactive. Students who suffer a broken bone, severe injury or undergo surgery during the semester are eligible for temporary services. Brownsville Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in Cortez Hall Room 129 and can be contacted by phone at (956) 882-7374 (Voice) or via email at ability@utrgv.edu. Edinburg Campus: Student Accessibility Services is located in 108 University Center and can be contacted by phone at (956) 665-7005 (Voice), (956) 665-3840 (Fax), or via email at ability@utrgv.edu.

MANDATORY COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD: Students are required to complete an ONLINE evaluation of this course, accessed through your UTRGV account (http://my.utrgv.edu); you will be contacted through email with further instructions. Students who complete their evaluations will have priority access to their grades. Online evaluations will be available between July 1 and July 10.

ATTENDANCE: Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes and may be dropped from the course for excessive absences. UTRGVs attendance policy excuses students from attending class if they are participating in officially sponsored university activities, such as athletics; for observance of religious holy days; or for military service. Students should contact the instructor in advance of the excused absence and arrange to make up missed work or examinations.

SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY: As members of a community dedicated to Honesty, Integrity and Respect, students are reminded that those who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, plagiarism (including self-plagiarism), and collusion; submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in
whole or in part to another person; taking an examination for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced (Board of Regents Rules and Regulations and UTRGV Academic Integrity Guidelines). All scholastic dishonesty incidents will be reported to the Dean of Students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, and VIOLENCE: In accordance with UT System regulations, your instructor is a Responsible Employee for reporting purposes under Title IX regulations and so must report any instance, occurring during a students time in college, of sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, domestic violence, or sexual harassment about which she/he becomes aware during this course through writing, discussion, or personal disclosure. More information can be found at www.utrgv.edu/equity, including confidential resources available on campus. The faculty and staff of UTRGV actively strive to provide a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect that is free from sexual misconduct and discrimination.

COURSE DROPS: According to UTRGV policy, students may drop any class without penalty earning a grade of DR until the official drop date. Following that date, students must be assigned a letter grade and can no longer drop the class. Students considering dropping the class should be aware of the 3-peat rule and the 6-drop rule so they can recognize how dropped classes may affect their academic success. The 6-drop rule refers to Texas law that dictates that undergraduate students may not drop more than six courses during their undergraduate career. Courses dropped at other Texas public higher education institutions will count toward the six-course drop limit. The 3-peat rule refers to additional fees charged to students who take the same class for the third time.

STUDENT SERVICES: Students who demonstrate financial need have a variety of options when it comes to paying for college costs, such as scholarships, grants, loans and work-study. Students should visit the Students Services Center (U Central) for additional information. U Central is located in BMAIN 1.100 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 1.145 (Edinburg) or can be reached by email (ucentral@utrgv.edu) or telephone: (888) 882-4026. In addition to financial aid, U Central can assist students with registration and admissions. Students seeking academic help in their studies can use university resources in addition to instructors office hours. University Resources include the Learning Center, Writing Center, Advising Center and Career Center. The centers provide services such as tutoring, writing help, critical thinking, study skills, degree planning, and student employment. Locations are: (i) Learning center: BSTUN 2.10 (Brownsville) or
ELCTR 100 (Edinburg) (ii) Writing center: BLIBR 3.206 (Brownsville) or ESTAC 3.119 (Edinburg) (iii) Advising center: BMAIN 1.400 (Brownsville) or ESWKH 101 (Edinburg) (iv) Career center: BCRTZ 129 (Brownsville) or ESSBL 2.101 (Edinburg)