

MATH 465
MODERN ALGEBRA I
Nicholls State University, Spring 2004

Instructor: Brian Heck. My office is 117-A Peltier Hall and my office phone number is 448-4383. My office hours are as follows: Monday, Wednesday 4-6 p.m., and Tuesday, Thursday 9-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-3 p.m. Please come by if you have any questions. Also, my email is Brian.Heck@nicholls.edu.

Prerequisite/Text: Completion of Math 358 and Math 360. Our required text is *Contemporary Abstract Algebra* by Joseph Gallian (5th ed.)

Course Description (catalog): Introductory concepts, axiomatic approach to the number system, general algebraic systems, groups.

Course Description (instructor): I would prefer this class be called “group theory” since that is the central focus of the course. We will spend the first night (or two) going over basics, and then quickly get to groups. We will spend the rest of the semester examining different types of groups (finite, cyclic, permutation) and topics related to groups (homomorphisms, isomorphisms, and cosets).

Grading Policy: You will have four (4) equally weighted components to your grade; board work, problem sets, midterm exam, final exam. The two exams will each be closed notes and comprehensive.

Attendance/Expectations: I will not include attendance as part of your course grade. I do, however, expect you to attend class everyday. You are responsible for all material covered in class. It is assumed that you are attending this university because you have a desire for higher learning. It is therefore expected that you will pay attention, be respectful of your instructor and fellow students, and follow the Code of Student Conduct. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with severely. If you are caught cheating, you will fail this course. Similarly, if you are a disruptive presence in the classroom, you will be dropped from the class.

Disability: If you have a documented disability that requires assistance, you will need to register with the Office of Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Office of Disability Services is located in Peltier Hall, Room 100-A. The phone number is (985) 448-4430 (TDD 449-7002).