Text   We will be using *Abstract Algebra: Theory and Applications*, by Thomas W. Judson as our textbook. We will cover material from the first 14 chapters (Chapter 0 through Chapter 13).

Home Page   Start at `http://buzzard.ups.edu/courses.html` to locate the WWW page for this course.

Office Hours   My office is in Thompson 303; the telephone number is 879–3564. Making appointments or simple, non-mathematical questions can be handled via electronic mail — my address is `beezer@ups.edu`. Office Hours are 10:00–10:50 on Monday and Friday, and 9:30-10:50 on Tuesday and Thursday. You may make an appointment for other times, or just drop by my office. Office hours are your opportunity to receive extra help or clarification on material from class, or to discuss any other aspect of the course.

Homework   Homework will be assigned for each chapter, but will not be collected. Of course, you are not limited to working *just* these assigned problems. Once a week, generally on Friday, we will have a problem session where we can discuss these problems. It is your responsibility to be certain that you are learning from the homework exercises. The best ways to do this are to work the problems diligently when assigned and to participate in the classroom discussion. If at this point you are still unsure about a problem, then a visit to my office is in order. Making a consistent effort outside of the classroom is the easiest way to do well in this course.

> Mathematics not only demands straight thinking, it grants the student the satisfaction of knowing when he [or she] is thinking straight.
> — D. Jackson

> Mathematics is not a spectator sport.
> — Anonymous

> I hear, I forget.
> I see, I remember.
> I do, I understand.
> — Chinese Proverb

> An education is not received. It is achieved.
> — Anonymous

Reading Questions   Reading questions will be posted on the course WWW page for each chapter. Your answers are due back to me by midnight the evening before we begin discussing a new chapter (usually this will be Monday night). These should be submited to the email address announced in class, not my `beezer@ups.edu` address.

Quizzes   There will be eleven one-hour quizzes — see the attached sheet for tentative dates — though mostly they will be on Monday, at the conclusion of each chapter. The lowest two of your quiz scores will be dropped. The comprehensive final exam will be given at 8 AM on Monday, December 15. The final exam cannot be given at any other time, so be certain that you do not make any travel plans that conflict, and also be aware that I will allow you to work longer on the final exam than just the two-hour scheduled block of time.

Grades Grades will be based on the following breakdown: Quizzes — 75%; Reading Questions — 5%; Final — 20%. Homework, attendance and improvement will be considered for borderline grades. Scores will be posted on the World Wide Web at `http://buzzard.ups.edu/courses.html`.

Reminders Two reminders about university policies contained in the *Academic Handbook*. These are described thoroughly online, or a printed copy may be requested from the Registrar's Office (basement of Jones Hall).

Withdrawal grades are often misunderstood. A Withdrawal grade (W) can only be given during the third through sixth weeks of the semester, after that time (barring unusual circumstances), the appropriate grade is a Withdrawal Failing (WF), *even if your work has been of passing quality.* See the attached schedule for the last day to drop with an automatic 'W'. See `http://www.ups.edu/x4727.xml#withdrawal`.

All of your graded work is expected to be entirely your own work — this includes reading questions. Anything to the contrary is a violation of the university's comprehensive policy on Academic Honesty (cheating and plagiarism). Discovered incidents will be handled strictly, in accordance with this policy. Penalties can include failing the course and range up to being expelled from the university. See `http://www.ups.edu/x4718.xml`.

Attendance Daily attendance is required, expected, and overall a pretty good idea.

Purpose At this point in your college career, you should be well on your way to being an independent scholar, who appreciates the beauty of mathematics and understands the effort needed to master new and difficult ideas. Consistent with that, I will be giving you a fair degree of freedom to learn this material in a manner that suits you.

Read the book before the lectures, work the exercises diligently, tidy up your class notes each evening, and ask questions. Arriving late to class, or having conversations with others during class, not only disrupts your peers, but tells me you are not serious about your education. I will not routinely check attendance, but our class is small enough that I will notice when you are not here, and again this will be another way that you signal me about your commitment to the endeavor.

Many consider group theory (the branch of Abstract Algebra that we will concentrate on this semester) one of the most fascinating areas of mathematics. The investment of your time and energy applied to studying it will be amply repaid by a full understanding of its deeper ideas.

Tentative Daily Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Sep 1 Labor Day	Sep 2 Syllabus Chapter 0	Sep 4 Chapter 0, 1	Sep 5 Problem Session
Sep 8 Quiz 0, 1	Sep 9 Chapter 2	Sep 11 Chapter 2	Sep 12 Problem Session
Sep 15 Quiz 2	Sep 16 Chapter 3	Sep 18 Chapter 3	Sep 19 Problem Session
Sep 22 Quiz 3	Sep 23 Chapter 4	Sep 25 Chapter 4	Sep 26 Problem Session
Sep 29 Quiz 4	Sep 30 Chapter 5	Oct 2 Chapter 5	Oct 3 Problem Session
Oct 6 Quiz 5	Oct 7 Chapter 8	Oct 9 Chapter 8	Oct 10 Problem Session
Oct 13 Quiz 8 Last Day for 'W'	Oct 14 Chapter 9	Oct 16 Chapter 9	Oct 17 Chapter 9

Midterm

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Oct 20 Fall Break	Oct 21 Fall Break	Oct 23 Chapter 9	Oct 24 Problem Session
Oct 27 Quiz 9	Oct 28 Chapter 10	Oct 30 Chapter 10	Oct 31 Problem Session
Nov 3 Quiz 10	Nov 4 Chapter 11	Nov 6 Chapter 11	Nov 7 Problem Session
Nov 10 Quiz 11	Nov 11 Chapter 12	Nov 13 Chapter 12	Nov 14 Problem Session
Nov 17 Quiz 12	Nov 18 Chapter 13	Nov 20 Chapter 13	Nov 21 Chapter 13
Nov 24 Problem Session	Nov 25 Quiz 13	Nov 27 Thanksgiving	Nov 28 Thanksgiving
Dec 1 Snow Day	Dec 2 Snow Day	Dec 4 Chapter 6	Dec 5 Chapter 6
Dec 8 Chapter 7	Dec 9 Chapter 7		

Final Examination
Monday, December 15, 8:00 AM