

Introduction to Number Theory

MAS 4203

Summer B 2024

Instructor: Dr. John Streese
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Office Hours (Start July 2nd): Tuesdays 11am - 12:15 pm
Wednesdays 12:30pm - 1:45pm
or by appointment
Lecture: MTWRF, 2:00pm - 3:15pm
Classroom: LIT 205

Prerequisites	MAC 2312, MAC 2512 or MAC 3473 with a minimum grade of C; MAS 3300 or MHF 3202 recommended. It is highly recommended you have had a course that requires proof-writing.
Course Description	This course is designed as an introduction to elementary number theory as well as some of the various applications. The basic topics include the greatest common divisor, the fundamental theorem of arithmetic, arithmetic functions, multiplicative functions, congruences, the Chinese remainder theorem, quadratic residues, quadratic reciprocity and primitive roots. During the last week, I would like to cover some fun topics like cryptography and integer partitions.
Course Goals	At the end of this course you should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Effectively communicate mathematical ideas.2. Write a mathematical proof.3. Know and understand basic ideas and applications of number theory.
Required Materials	There are no required textbooks for this course. However, my lecture notes will be based off of the text <i>Elementary Number Theory</i> by Strayer ISBN 1-57766-224-5. I will also be using Ivan Niven's <i>An Introduction to Number Theory</i> Fifth Edition ISBN 978-0-471-62546-9. Prioritize Strayer over Niven if you'd like to just use a single text.
E-Learning Canvas:	I will put homework assignments, lecture notes, announcements and grades on Canvas. Please check Canvas regularly. You are responsible for verifying that your grades are accurate. You have one week after a score has been posted to contact me if you believe there has been a recording error. There is no grade dispute at the end of the semester.
Tests	There will be two midterm exams throughout the course. The first midterm exam will be on July 19 (tentative) during class. The second midterm exam will be on August 8 (tentative) during class. The second exam is not cumulative. Periods are 75 minutes in length, and therefore that will be the standard time allotted on an exam. I will go into even more detail on what to expect for exams when the dates draw nearer.

Homework There will be 6 homework assignments. Homework will generally be assigned on Mondays and due by 11:59pm the following Sunday. The final homework (homework 6) is due TBD. You are allowed and encouraged to discuss the assignments your classmates on the assignments. However, you are expected to write up your solutions on your own. Plagiarized solutions will result in a 0 on that assignment. I will discuss more in class how to avoid plagiarism in a proof-based mathematics course. Because of how condensed the summer B schedule is, the final homework assignment will be shorter and also be due sooner than the usual Sunday 11:59pm.

Late Homework Policy Homeworks are due 11:59pm Sunday evenings (with the exception of homework 6). For each day that a homework assignment is late, the assignment will accrue a 10 percent penalty. This penalty will accumulate up to one week. Here are some concrete examples: If your assignment is submitted 5 hours late, a 10 percent penalty is applied. If your assignment is 37 hours late, you will receive a 20 percent penalty. If an assignment is over one week (168 hours) late, it will no longer be accepted.

Class Attendance Very strongly encouraged, but is not mandatory. If a student exhibits excessive absences, they will have great difficulty keeping up with the material. Not only do we cover material very quickly, but I will commonly work through exercises that will be very helpful for your homework assignments and exams, so it is to your benefit to be present.

Excused absences A doctor's note, excuse through the UF DSO, religious holiday, or verified University event can qualify for an excused absence. You have **one** homework drop to also help alleviate any future scheduling conflicts. Make use of this if you need it.

Grading

Homework: 50%

Exam 1: 25%

Exam 2: 25%

Grading Scale

90-100 A	87-90 A-	84-87 B+	80-84 B
77-80 B-	74-77 C+	67-74 C	64-67 C-*
60-64 D+	57-60 D	54-57 D-	0-54 E

NOTE: I will not review disputed points at the end of the semester. All grade concerns must be settled within one week of the return of the paper.

Calculators One of the goals of the class is to learn how to use number theoretic tools to simplify or speed up calculations and algorithms that would otherwise be unwieldy to use. Since these applications involve the use of numbers larger than would be comfortable to work with in an exam setting, you will be allowed to use a non-programmable calculator on exams.

Course Evaluations Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Students with Learning Disabilities

Students requesting class and exam accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office Disability Resource Center (DRC), www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/. That office will provide a documentation letter via email to your instructor. This must be done as early as possible in the semester, **at least one week before the first exam**, so there is adequate time to make proper accommodations. I am fairly familiar with the DRC accommodation process, so please reach out to me if you had any specific questions about this.

Academic Honesty Guidelines

All students are required to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines which have been accepted by the University. The academic community of students and faculty at the University of Florida strives to develop, sustain and protect an environment of honesty, trust, and respect. Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity. Exhibiting honesty in academic pursuits and reporting violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will encourage others to act with integrity. Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines shall result in judicial action and a student being subject to the sanctions in paragraph XIV of the Student Code of Conduct. The conduct set forth hereinafter constitutes a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines (University of Florida Rule 6C1-4.017).

The Mathematics Department expects you to follow the Student Honor Code. We are bound by university policy to report any instance of suspected cheating to the proper authorities. You may find the Student Honor Code and read more about student rights and responsibilities concerning academic honesty at the link www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/.

In addition, we remind you that lectures given in this class are the property of the University/faculty member and may not be taped without prior permission from the instructor and may not be used for any commercial purpose. Students found to be in violation may be subject to discipline under the Student Conduct Code.

Note: Information in this syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be clearly announced in class or through e-mail.

Please see the last page for the tentative schedule for the course.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	July 1 Intro and Divisibility	July 2 Euclidean Algorithm and Primes	July 3 The Division Algorithm and GCD	July 4 Holiday - No Class	July 5 Primes and Unique Factorization
2	July 8 Congruences	July 11 Linear Congruences in one variable	July 12 The Chinese Remainder Theorem	July 13 Wilson's Theorem	July 12 Fermat's Little Theorem and Euler's Theorem
3	July 15 Arithmetic Functions and Multiplicativity	July 16 $\phi(n)$	July 17 $\nu(n)$ and $\sigma(n)$	July 18 Review Day	July 19 Midterm 1
4	July 22 Mobius Inversion Formula	July 23 Quadratic Residues	July 24 The Legendre Symbol	July 25 Law of Quadratic Reciprocity	July 26 The Order of an Integer; Primitive Roots
5	July 29 Primitive Roots for Prime Numbers	July 30 The Primitive Root Theorem	July 31 Diophantine Equations	August 1 Simultaneous Linear Equations	August 2 Pythagorean Triples and Intro to Fermat's Last Theorem
6	August 5 Review Day 2	August 6 Cryptography; The RSA Encryption System	August 7 Partitions and Ferrers Graph	August 8 Midterm 2	August 9 No class

GRADES DUE: AUGUST 12th