

INSTRUCTOR	Dr. Jeff Adler
TIME & PLACE	MWF 11:00–11:50, Schrank Hall South 110
OFFICE	Ayer 239
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E-MAIL	adler@uakron.edu
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OFFICE HOURS	MWF 1:30–2:30, T 11:00–12:00 or by appointment. Or just drop by to see if I'm available. When I am, I love discussing this stuff.
TEXTBOOK	<i>Abstract Algebra</i> , 2nd ed., by Dummit and Foote.

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## Course Objective

Using modern techniques, we will study some of the great problems of antiquity and the middle ages, and find an efficient proof of the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra. Group actions will be our theme.

## Course Requirements

- Homework problems will be due two class periods after we cover the relevant section of the text book. (There will be a penalty for late papers.) Feel free to ask about assigned (or unassigned) problems in class. *I encourage you to work with your classmates.* However, you must write up your solutions yourself.
- At some point during the second half of the term, you will prepare and deliver a lecture of about 25 minutes on some topic related to the course. I will suggest topics as the course moves along.
- There will be a midterm test and a comprehensive final exam. The latter is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, from noon to 1:55.

## Grading scheme

- Homework: 40%    Lecture: 15%    Midterm: 15%    Final Exam: 30%
- Tentative Scale: 90 = A, 80 = B, 70 = C, 60 = D.
- Plus and minus grades will be given at my discretion.

## University regulations

- In order to participate, you must be registered by Mon., Sept. 10, 2001. Fri., Oct. 19 is the last day to withdraw without my signature. All withdrawal forms must be at Spicer Hall by 4:30 on Fri., Nov. 16.
- You can only receive a grade of Incomplete if you have at least a C average on work completed and are unable to finish the course due to circumstances beyond your control. The Dean's Office must approve all Incompletes.

## Advice

It's a small class—don't be shy about asking questions. Start the homework problems early (it's more efficient that way). Work together. See me if you feel lost.