

MATH 6510
spring 2016
Revised February 14, 2016

Instructor: Professor Douglas Brozovic

Office: GAB room 417

Office Phone: 565-4304

E-mail: brozovic@unt.edu

Webpage: www.math.unt.edu/~brozovic

Office Hours (tentative): Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, Wednesday 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, or by appointment.

General Course Information

- This course is intended to serve as an introduction to the theory of permutation groups and as an introduction to the use of the GAP computational package.
- The idea will be to do a couple of sections of lecture material, followed by a GAP session in which we generate computations associated to the previous lecture material. We'll bounce back and forth in this way and get as far as we can.
- I will be posting notes from lectures on the class webpage. This will provide greater flexibility during class time, and allow you to focus on the material. I will be asking each of you to read and make corrections on chunks of the notes as we go along.

Possible Reference Sources:

(1) Some references for Permutation groups:

- (i) *Permutation Groups*, by Donald S. Passman. It's a great book that is now published by Dover (I think). So it can be had for very little money.
- (ii) *Finite Permutation Groups* By Helmut Wielandt. This is an old book, but remains a standard reference. I haven't checked recently, but this one can be hard to find.
- (iii) *Permutation Groups* by John D. Dixon and Brian Mortimer. This is a newish book that has a lot of excellent material.

(2) For general group theory:

- (i) *Finite Groups*, by Daniel Gorenstein.
- (ii) *An Introduction to the Theory of Groups*, by Joseph Rotman.
- (iii) *A Course on Group theory*, by John Rose.
- (iv) *Finite group theory*, by M. Aschbacher.

Grading Policy

I will not be collecting homework, or taking attendance. This class is for your edification and you should probably make an effort to attend class regularly. This is especially important for those of you interested in working in Algebra.

The only “significant” expectation is that you do the modest editing of our class notes as follows:

My plan is to require each student to proof read a percentage of the posted notes. Each student will take 12-15 or so pages at a time, and you will take turns going through them carefully and reporting any issues, necessary corrections, and the like to me. I will make those changes, and update the posted notes as the semester progresses.

Students meeting the above expectations will earn an A. Otherwise, you’ll earn a B.

In compliance with the *Americans with Disabilities Act*, I include the following:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.