

	Time	Location
Lecture	MW 3:15-4:30pm	Eng. 1 Bld. 121

Instructor: Robert Ellis, Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics

Office Info: Eng. 1 Bldg. Rm. 105C, 567-5336, rellis“aht”math.iit.edu (with appropriate modification)

Office hours: walk-in (TRF best)

Appointments and emailed questions are also welcome. I encourage you to request joint appointments so that more people can benefit from the discussion, or simply bring others with you.

Course Home Page: <http://math.iit.edu/~rellis/431S09/> **Assignments posted here, check often!**

Prerequisites: Math 430

Texts: *Applied Algebra*, Joseph Gallian, 6th ed., Houghton Mifflin. (Textbook supplements are posted at <http://www.d.umn.edu/~jgallian/>).

Fundamentals of Error-Correcting Codes, Cary Huffman and Vera Pless, Cambridge University Press, 2003. Available to IIT students through “Books 24×7” at Galvin Library.

Description. This is a proofs-based course which treats the structure, properties, and relationships of groups, rings, and fields; a substantial amount of number theory is included along the way. This course continues Math 430, and will spend more time in rings and fields, and go on to various applications, especially in coding theory.

Cooperative Learning. This course requires full participation in group activities including class exercises, group homework, and group quizzes. Mastery of mathematics is not just individual and internal, but also includes the ability to communicate mathematics to others, and to positively contribute to group goals. Thirty percent of the course grade is drawn from group activities: (i) group homework; (ii) participation: class and group participation, and attendance; and (iii) group reading quizzes, randomly occurring throughout the semester. The two tests and the final (together 70%) verify individual mastery of the course material.

Grade Breakdown. Group homework 10%. Participation (includes attendance) 10%. Group random reading quizzes 10%. Exam 1, Tuesday October 21, 20%. Exam 2, Tuesday November 25, 20%. Final, Tues. May 12, 2:00pm-4:00pm, 30%. Part of the homework may consist of a group project with presentation, to be determined. The grading scale will be no more strict than A:89-100, B:78-88, C: 67-77, D:56-66.

Group Homework. Weekly group homework assignments typically be due on Thursdays, with adjustments around exam days, fall break, and Thanksgiving. One paper will be turned in per group. The paper must be accompanied by a signed statement from each group member the he/she participated fully and that each other group member participated fully in the assignment. Full participation means fully understanding each solution submitted by the group, and by positive effort and participation in the process producing the assignment. A written explanation must be attached to the assignment whenever a group member does not fully participate in it. Solutions **may not be sought** from solution manuals or any other pre-written solution. The only persons that may be consulted are your own group members, the instructor, and designated ARC tutors for this course (if any, TBA). **Homework Presentation.** Solutions should be presented carefully, and will be graded both on correctness of mathematics and on presentation. Write solutions so that a fellow student can understand – an un-annotated sequence of calculations is generally not well-communicated mathematics. Homework will be due at the beginning of class on the due date so as not to disrupt the lecture.

Participation. Participation means attendance and full attention and positive contribution to the class components, including group activities, lecture, and discussion. **Class Attendance.** An absence not only lowers your course participation grade, but also deprives your group of your contribution. Chronic

absence is not acceptable. Sitting in class while preoccupied with a non-class activity counts as absent. The text is excellent, but prompt and regular class attendance is required, as the group activities, lectures, and discussions are an indispensable means of mastering the material.

Random Group Reading Quizzes. At the beginning of each class, two 6-sided dice will be rolled, and if the result is 2, 3, 4, or 5 a group reading quiz will be given covering the most recent reading assignment (posted on the course homepage). Each group will have until 3:20pm to submit one paper. Quiz questions might be short answer, True/False with explanation, or might require basic computations from definitions in the reading. Late arrivals will receive a 0 except for documented IIT activity (at instructor's discretion) or medical/family emergency. We know Chicago has traffic, so that will generally not be an acceptable excuse unless a highway is closed.

Exam Components. The exams and final exam will have the following 3-part structure: (i) examples, counterexamples, and definitions; (ii) algorithms, computations, and applications; and (iii) proofs. Typically there will be 1-2 routine proofs and 1-2 proofs of moderate difficulty. Notice will be given if this structure changes.

Topics. We will attempt to cover the following material from the texts. Time constrains may force some later topics to be omitted. Course Outline:

Polynomial Rings	Factorization of Polynomials
Divisibility in Integral Domains	Vector Spaces
Extension Fields	Algebraic Extensions
Finite Fields	Geometric Constructions
Sylow Theorems	Generators and Relations
Frieze Groups and Crystallographic Groups	Cayley Digraphs of Groups
Introduction to Algebraic Coding Theory	Miscellaneous Topics in Coding Theory

Academic Integrity. The Code of Conduct and applicable penalties in the IIT Student Handbook apply.

Missed Work. Assignments and exams cannot be made up except as approved by the instructor (e.g., due to official IIT activity or documented emergency). An exam missed for an excused reason must be made up promptly upon the student's return, the time frame being at the discretion of the instructor.

Spring Break Holiday. You are expected to arrange your spring break travel so as not to interfere with your participation in the course.

Disability Assistance. IIT and this instructor are committed to accommodating students with disabilities. Students desiring such consideration must immediately contact the Center for Disability Resources and Educational Development at 567-5744. (Their approval must be had for any exceptions regarding exam guidelines.)