Math 3341 - Number Theory I
Spring 2010

Instructor: Dr. Brian K. Miceli

Course URL: http://trinity.edu/bmiceli

All of the instructor’s contact information and office hours can be found at the above URL. In addition, all information which is pertinent to this course, including a copy of this syllabus, can be found at the above web page by following the proper links.

Time and Place: TR 11:20 AM - 12:35 PM, Marrs McLean Science Building (MMS), Room 110

Office Hours: For the exact times of office hours, consult the Course URL. I will also be available by appointment.

Textbook: Number Theory Through Inquiry by Marshall, Odell, & Starbird

Prerequisites: A passing grade in Math 3326.

Course Content: Chapter 0-4 of the text will be covered. These topics include divisibility, congruences, and an introduction to prime numbers and their properties. Other topics will be covered at the discretion of the instructor.

Expectations: Each student is expected to invest a significant amount of work and thought outside the classroom for every hour of lecture. Moreover, work submitted for evaluation in this course will be graded in a most rigorous fashion, and thusly, such work should have a great deal of thought and care put into it. Work which is sloppy or messy or that which is not written in a clear and coherent fashion will be marked down. This includes losing points for grammatical errors, spelling mistakes, and similar offenses.

Grading: Your course grade will be based upon your scores on the presentations, homework, midterm exams, and the final exam. Grades will be curved at the end of the semester.

Presentations: Most class time will be spent doing presentations of problems and theorems from the textbook. It is expected that work presented at the board will have the same quality as if it were to be turned in on an exam.

Homework: Homework assignments will be due every Thursday at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated. Homework will be assigned and posted on the web page. Except for extreme circumstances, late homework will not be accepted for any reason, and unexcused late or missing papers will be given a grade of zero (0). Each homework problem may be resubmitted once, and the final grade on each problem will be the average of the two grades. Each resubmitted problem must be done on its own sheet of paper and must be stapled to the original. Please write “resubmit” at the top of the front page of all problems being resubmitted. Resubmitted problems will only be accepted within one week of being returned. Graded homework exercises are to be written neatly using one side of 8.5 × 11 inch paper, and multiple pages must be stapled together before you come to class. Do not use paper from a spiral notebook unless you can tear off the ragged edge.

“Outside Aid” Policy for Presentations & Homework: Collaboration is a very important part of mathematics; however, in this course, no collaboration will be allowed on presentation problems or homework problems. Moreover, students are not allowed seek the aid of the Internet, other textbooks, assignments from other classes (concurrent or previous), or faculty on these problems unless given explicit permission by the instructor to do so. Students may study together for exams.
Midterm Exams: There will be two evening midterm exams given during the semester. The dates for these exams will be announced in class and posted to the course web page as they become more concrete.

Final Exam: There will be a cumulative final exam given at the end of the semester. More details will be given as the end of the semester nears.

Attendance: Attendance is highly encouraged but is not mandatory. Roll will not be taken, but excessive absences should be explained to the instructor.

Academic Integrity: All students are covered by a policy that prohibits dishonesty in academic work. Under the Honor Code, a faculty member will (or a student may) report an alleged violation to the Academic Honor Council. It is the task of the Council to investigate, adjudicate, and assign a punishment within certain guidelines if a violation has been verified. Students who are under the Honor Code are required to pledge all written work that is submitted for a grade: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized assistance on this work” and their signature. The pledge may be abbreviated “pledged” with a signature.

Disability Services for Students: If you have a documented disability and will need accommodations in this class, please speak with the instructor privately early in the semester so that he may be prepared to meet your needs. If you have not already registered with Disability Services for Students, contact the office at 999-7411. You must be registered with DSS before I can provide accommodations.