

Math 300.01 – Fundamental Concepts in Mathematics, Spring 2009

Instructor: Weimin Chen

Office: 1336 LGRT

Phone: 545-0590

E-mail: wchen@math.umass.edu

Office hours: TuTh 10:00 – 11:00, or by appointment

Math 391A Instructor: Peter Krafft (peter.krafft@gmail.com)

Text: *An Introduction to Mathematical Thinking (Algebra and Number Systems)*, by Gilbert and Vanstone, Prentice Hall, 2005. Additional materials by instructor.

Course webpage: Go to <http://www.math.umass.edu/~wchen>. It will become available soon. Please check it often for homework assignments and weekly announcement.

Exams: There will be two **in class** midterm exams and a final exam. Schedule TBA.

Make-up policy: If you have a legitimate (i.e., multiple exams at the same time, medical problems, emergency absences, religious observances) scheduling conflict with any of the exams, please notify me of the conflict as soon as you become aware of it. Please note that previously arranged travel plans are **not** a valid reason to be given a make-up exam.

Homework: Homework is collected and graded on a weekly basis. Each week's assignment will be collected in the beginning of the next Monday's class. For example, the first week's (1/26, 1/28, 1/30) homework will be collected during the class on 2/2. Each homework must be well organized and neatly written. We will drop the lowest homework score, hence no late homework assignments will be accepted. The homework will be graded as follows: each is worth of 15 points; 5 points for "general impression", and 10 points for the student's performance on two or three randomly selected problems from each collected homework .

Co-seminar Math 391A: Math 300 has a required "co-seminar" Math 391A worth 1 credit. Every student who signs up for Math 300 should also sign up for Math 391A. In addition to attending Math 300 lectures, the students will also need to meet once a week for the seminar. The seminars are led by an undergraduate teaching assistant. Seminar times will be arranged during the first week of classes. Please fill out a piece of paper on which you write your name and the times you are NOT available.

Grading: Midterm 1: 20%, Midterm 2: 20%, Final: 40%, Hw: 20%.