This course is an introduction to Abstract Algebra. The text that we will use is “Contemporary Abstract Algebra,” seventh edition, by Joseph A. Gallian, published by Prentice Hall. We will cover most of chapters 0 - 15. The prerequisite for the course is a C or better in third semester Calculus and Math 290. The Math 290 prerequisite is particularly important, because most of the homework and test questions will require you to write proofs.

The course web page is

http://math.gmu.edu/~wmorris/321hwf11.html

There you will find homework sets.

Class does not meet on October 11. Your Monday classes from that week meet on that day.

There will be no class on November 24 (Thanksgiving).

There will be two tests during the semester and a final exam. We will tentatively schedule the first two tests for September 27 and November 8. Each of the first two tests determines one fourth of the final grade. The final exam is cumulative. It will be given on December 13. One third of the final grade is determined by the final exam. One sixth of the grade is determined by weekly homework assignments.

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the ODS.

Feel free to come to my office if you have any questions. I check my e-mail daily, so you can also ask questions that way. Be certain that you understand all of the homework assigned and all of the assigned reading, and that you ask questions in or out of class in order to clear up any problems you might have. Bear in mind that the questions that you ask in class help not only you, but also the professor and all of the others who had the same questions but were afraid to speak up.