

SYLLABUS

MATH 290

SPRING 2019

Instructor: Dr. J.S. Kulesza

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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday 10:30-11:45, or by appointment.

Textbook: "A Transition to Advanced Mathematics", 8th edition, by Smith, Eggen and St.Andre.

The Course : We will cover most sections of chapters 1-5.

MATH 290 is designated as a Scholarly Inquiry course within the Students as Scholars initiative (for general information on this initiative, see <http://oscar.gmu.edu/>.) MATH 290 is a structured introduction to writing mathematical proofs and, as such, is a transition course into upper level mathematics courses.

The goal of the course is to give students the ability and confidence to pose and answer mathematical questions and to write careful, correct mathematical proofs. While engaged in this process, you should become more familiar with the nature of mathematical research, how proofs are created and communicated, and with the typical working tools of the mathematical community.

Homework : Math 290 fulfills the writing-intensive requirement for the major in mathematics. It is also the course in which students learn to construct correct mathematical proofs and write them in a grammatically correct, presentable and readable fashion. Toward achieving these goals, there will be short writing assignments most weeks which will be graded both for accuracy and clarity of presentation. Submitted homework should be your own work; you may discuss the nature of the problems but the written solutions you submit must be your own. Homework is also to be submitted on time. Homework which has been copied is a violation of the honor code and will be treated as such. Late homework will lose 25 percent of its value per day unless I have given pre-approval.

There will be additional problems assigned which will not be collected. These are practice problems. For these problems, you are permitted to discuss solutions with other students or ask questions in class when you encounter difficulties.

Exams and Grading : Final grades will be determined by combining grades from homework, two midterm exams and the final exam. The midterms are each worth 20 percent, the final exam is worth 30 percent and homework 30 percent of the final grade.

Honor Code : GMU is an Honor Code university; please see the Office for Academic Integrity for a full description of the code and the honor committee process. The principle of academic integrity is taken very seriously and violations are treated gravely.

Disability Services : 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.

Exam Dates : These are tentative (except for the final); you are responsible to be aware of any changes:

Exam 1: March 4.

Exam 2: April 15

Final Exam: May 13 at 7:30 AM.