

Mathematics 100A Syllabus: Fall 2020

1 About the instructor

1. Name: Aaron Pollack
2. Office: Virtual, via Zoom
3. email: apollack@ucsd.edu
4. course website: <https://www.math.ucsd.edu/~apollack/teachingF20.html>
5. Office hours: Please see course website; also, by appointment

2 Basic course information

- Textbook: *Algebra*, 2nd edition, by Michael Artin. We will cover Chapter 2, and a lot of chapters 6 and 7.
- Official class meeting time: MWF, 10:00am-10:50am (virtual)
 - First day of lecture: Friday October 2nd
 - Last day of lecture: Friday December 11th
 - Our default option will be to have pre-recorded video lectures, uploaded to Canvas. It is possible that we may sometimes have live lectures, at the above meeting time. (If so, these lectures will be recorded and again uploaded to Canvas.) If there is to be a “live” lecture, you will be notified in advance via Canvas.
- Holidays (no lecture):
 - Wednesday, November 11th Veterans day
 - Thursday, Friday November 26th-27th, Thanksgiving
- Discussion sections
 1. Tu 11:00am-11:50am
 2. Tu 12:00pm-12:50pm
- Scheduled final exam: **December 18th 2020, 8am-11am**. There will not be a written final exam. Instead, your final project will be due at the end of this examination period.
- Quizzes:
 1. Friday October 9
 2. Friday October 23
 3. Friday November 6
 4. Friday November 20

5. Friday December 4

- Homework: Will be due on the following days:

1. Wednesday October 7
2. Wednesday October 14
3. Wednesday October 21
4. Wednesday October 28
5. Wednesday November 4
6. Friday November 13
7. Wednesday November 18
8. Wednesday November 25
9. Wednesday December 2
10. Wednesday December 9

3 Grading

Your grade percentage will be computed via the following weights:

- Homework: 45%, with the lowest score automatically dropped
- Quizzes: 40%, with the lowest score automatically dropped (so, your best four of five quiz scores will each count 10% towards your grade)
- Final Project: 15%

The following final percentages will guarantee you the corresponding grade (although the actual grade cutoffs may be lower):

$A+$	A	$A-$	$B+$	B	$B-$	$C+$	C	$C-$
97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70

Late homework will not be accepted. However, your lowest homework score will automatically be dropped. **Plan on doing all the homework** as this is the only way to learn the material.

The above grading policies are guidelines. The instructor reserves the right to alter these in any and all unusual circumstances, including, but not limited to: we miss classes due to extreme weather; a student misses an assessment due to severe illness; etc.

3.1 Homework policy

The only way to learn the concepts and techniques, and to do well in this course is to work through all of the homework problems. This will ensure that you do not get a false sense of security about if you truly understand the material. However, working with your peers is acceptable. **You must write up the solutions to the problems yourself.** Copying solutions from others or a solutions manual will be deemed academic misconduct. If you worked with peers to solve a problem, you should acknowledge on your homework who you worked with.

- Homework must be written clearly. All work must be shown.

4 Administrative policies

- University-excused absences: If you will miss one of the exams due to religious observation or for representing the university in varsity athletics, you must **email** me at the above email address **no later** than two weeks before the absence, but preferably as soon as possible.
- Violations of UCSD's academic integrity policies (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) will be handled by the instructor using UCSD administrative measures. In addition, the instructor reserves the right to assign a 0 score to any homework or exam affected by a violation.

5 Other notes

- You should read the material in the textbook before I cover it in class.
- This course moves quickly, and has a lot of difficult material. You are strongly advised not to fall behind.
- Frequently coming to office hours is a great way to ensure you are keeping up with the material.