Math 466, MWF 10:00, Room E205

Lecturer:  Alexander Hulpke, Weber 217
Office Hours:  See http://www.math.colostate.edu/~hulpke/officetimes.html
Tentatively: M2, W1, F1 – let me know if these times do not work for you.
Email:  hulpke@math.colostate.edu
WWW:  http://www.math.colostate.edu/~hulpke/lectures/m466
Phone:  491-4288

Textbook:  Peter Cameron, Introduction to Algebra, 2nd ed., Oxford UP, ISBN 978-0-19-852793-0. We probably won't be following the textbook slavishly and you may be able to use other books, in particular if your class notes are servicable.

In this course, we will be covering chapters 2,3 and parts of chapter 7. (I expect to be teaching 467 in the spring which will cover some of the remaining material.)

Exams
There will be one midterm on October 15 at the usually class time, as well as a final on December 18, at 9.10am. Let me know soon if there are collisions with exams in other courses.

Grades
will be based on homework (50%), midterm and final (25% each). (This implies in particular, that it will be extremely hard to get a good grade if homework is not submitted regularly!) Grades will be given on a linear scale with about 50% corresponding to D and 90% to A.

I expect to see you regularly in class and to regularly hand in solutions to the homework problems.

For privacy reasons the university does not permit open posting of grade information. Because of this, grades for the final and overall grades will be posted in RamCT. (RamCT will only be used for posting grades. Discussion or email tools in RamCT will not be used.)

Homework
Homework will be handed out every monday in the lecture, and is due at the start of the lecture of the wednesday of the following week. Late homework will be accepted only if the delay is due to reasons beyond your control.

Because of time restrictions, only to some of the problems can be treated in class, but I’m happy to go through any problems during office hours.

Computer use
Some problems will involve calculations that would be tedious to do by hand or with a simple pocket calculator. For these we will be using the computer algebra system GAP.

This program is installed on the PCs in the Mathematics lab. If you want to install it on your home PC (Linux/Windows/Mac) you can either download the program from http://www.gap-system.org or borrow a CD-ROM from me. (You won't be examined about the use of this program.)

More about this program later.

I wish you success with this course and all the best for the coming semester.