AMAT 299: INTRODUCTION TO PROOFS
SYLLABUS - SPRING 2021

Instructor: Prof. Matt Zaremsky
Course meets: MWF 10:35–11:30am on Zoom
Course Website: http://www.albany.edu/~mz498674/teaching.html

Email: mzaremsky at albany dot edu
Office hours: W 9:40–10:35am and F 1:05–2:00pm

1. Zoom-related logistics

This class is “mixed synchronous/asynchronous”. This means you can watch the lectures live on Zoom, and participate, or you can watch the recordings on your own time. After each lecture I will email out the link to the recording as soon as it’s available. Sometime before the first class I’ll email a link you can use for the Zoom lectures. I don’t use Blackboard for anything.

2. Office hours

Office hours will be W 9:40–10:35am and F 1:05–2:00pm via Zoom. If you want to come to office hours, email me and I’ll send you a Zoom link. Office hours will not be recorded.

3. Textbook

Richard Hammack, Book of Proof (Third Edition) [link]

4. Course description

“Introduction to the methods of higher mathematics, with emphasis on how to read, understand, discover, and write proofs. Topics include basic logic, sets, functions, relations, mathematical induction, countable and uncountable sets, and elementary number theory. This course will require a significant amount of written and oral presentation.” [Note: This last sentence doesn’t really apply this semester since we’re not in-person.]

5. Pre- and Co-requisites

Prerequisites: Mathematics major; one of AMAT 113, 119, 214 or 218 with a grade of C or better. Corequisite: UUNL 299.

6. Homework/grading

There will be homework, a midterm exam, and a final exam. Homework will be posted on the course webpage, due every Friday (you can email me a scan/picture of your homework). No late work will be accepted. The lowest homework will be dropped. Homework is worth 40% of your grade, the midterm is 25%, and the final is 30%; the remaining 5% for “participation” (very loosely defined).
7. Policies

See university policies [here] (medical excuse policy), [here] (academic integrity), and the following (absence due to religious observance):

“Instructors must explicitly refer to New York State Education Law (Section 224-A) whereby campuses are required to excuse, without penalty, individual students absent because of religious beliefs, and to provide equivalent opportunities for make-up examinations, study, or work requirements missed because of such absences. Faculty should work directly with students to accommodate religious observances. Students should notify the instructor of record in a timely manner.”