

MA 520 ABSTRACT ALGEBRA I

Fall 2025

Instructor:	Sarah Percival	Time:	MWF 2:00 – 2:50
Email:	spercival@unm.edu	Place:	SMLC 120

Course Page:

1. <https://www.math.unm.edu/~sarah/teaching.html>

Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 11:00-12:00, or by appointment at <https://calendly.com/sarah-b-percival>.

Main Reference:

- *Abstract Algebra* by David S. Dummit and Richard M. Foote.

Supplementary References:

- *Contemporary Abstract Algebra* by Joseph A. Gallian

Grading Policy: Grades will be determined by weekly homework (50%), two in-class exams (15% each), and a final exam (20%). Homework problems will be graded on a 3-point scale:

3 points	Correct, complete solution
2 points	Complete solution with minor issues
1 point	Major issues or problem is not complete
0 points	No substantial progress has been made

Late homework is generally not accepted, however you are allowed one one-week extension on an assignment of your choice. If there are extenuating circumstances, please talk to me.

The course grading scale is:

$100\% \leq A+ < 97\%$
$97\% \leq A < 90\%$
$87\% \leq A- < 80\%$
$83\% \leq B+ < 80\%$
$80\% \leq B < 77\%$
$77\% \leq B- < 73\%$
$73\% \leq C+ < 70\%$
$70\% \leq C < 67\%$
$60\% \leq D < 60\%$
$0\% \leq F < 60\%$

These numbers may be adjusted downward, but will not be adjusted upward.

Responsible Learning and Academic Honesty: You are allowed to collaborate with other students in the course, but you must submit your own original work. It is permitted to use outside resources (other textbooks, Stack Exchange, ChatGPT, etc) to aid in your understanding of the course material. If you use a resource (such as an AI, classmate, or a website) to aid you with work submitted for this class, document how you used it. However, you **may not** post homework questions on any online forum or enter them into generative AI software. You **may not** look up solutions online.

Exams are 50 minutes, in class, and closed-book. You are allowed both sides of an 8.5×11 sheet of paper as a cheat sheet. The cheat sheet must be handwritten (no L^AT_EX or tablet writing allowed) and will be turned in with the exam.

Cheating and plagiarism (academic dishonesty) are often driven by lack of time, desperation, or lack of knowledge about how to identify a source. Communicate with me and ask for help, even at the last minute, rather than risking your academic career by committing academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty involves presenting material as your own that has been generated on a website, in a publication, by an artificial intelligence algorithm (AI), by another person, or by otherwise breaking the rules of an assignment or exam. It is a Student Code of Conduct violation that can lead to a disciplinary procedure.

Credit-hour statement: This is a three credit-hour course. Class meets for three 50-minute sessions of direct instruction for fifteen weeks during the Fall 2025 semester. Please plan for a minimum of six hours of out-of-class work (or homework, study, assignment completion, and class preparation) each week.

Accommodations: UNM is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for students with documented disabilities. As your instructor, it is my objective to facilitate an inclusive classroom setting, in which students have full access and opportunity to participate. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations for this class and/or program, please contact Accessibility Resource Center (<https://arc.unm.edu/>) at arcsrvs@unm.edu or by phone at 505-277-3506.

UAP 2720 and 2740: Our classroom and university should foster mutual respect, kindness, and support. If you have concerns about discrimination, harassment, or violence, please seek support and report incidents. Find confidential services at LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center, the Women's Resource Center, and the LGBTQ Resource Center. UNM prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex (including gender, sex stereotyping, gender expression, and gender identity). All instructors are "responsible employees" who must communicate reports of sexual harassment, sexual misconduct and sexual violence to Compliance, Ethics and Equal Opportunity. For more information, please see UAP 2720 and UAP 2740.

Citizenship and/or Immigration Status: All students are welcome in this class regardless of citizenship, residency, or immigration status. Your professor will respect your privacy if you choose to disclose your status. UNM as an institution has made a core commitment to the success of all our students, including members of our undocumented community. The Administration's welcome is found on our website: <http://undocumented.unm.edu/>

Religions and Faith Traditions: The University of New Mexico promotes respect for all religions and faith traditions. Any student who is unable to attend classes or to participate in any examination, presentation, or assignment on a given day because of the observance of a major religious holiday or cultural observance, or due to related travel, is encouraged to speak with their instructor about an excused absence and opportunities to make up, without unreasonable burden, any work that has been missed.

Respectful Conduct Expectations: I am committed to building with you a positive classroom environment in which everyone can learn. I reserve the right to intervene and enforce standards of respectful behavior when classroom conduct is inconsistent with University expectations. Interventions and enforcement may include but are not limited to required meetings to discuss classroom expectations, written notification of expectations, and/or removal from a class meeting. The University of New Mexico ensures freedom of academic inquiry, free expression and open debate, and a respectful campus through adherence to the following policies: D75: Classroom Conduct, Student Code of Conduct, University Policy 2240 – Respectful Campus, University Policy 2210 – Campus Violence.

Land Acknowledgement: Founded in 1889, the University of New Mexico sits on the traditional homelands of the Pueblo of Sandia. The original peoples of New Mexico Pueblo, Navajo, and Apache since time immemorial, have deep connections to the land and have made significant contributions to the broader

community statewide. We honor the land itself and those who remain stewards of this land throughout the generations and also acknowledge our committed relationship to Indigenous peoples. We gratefully recognize our history.