

Course Outline for Math 1C03

Introduction to Mathematical Reasoning

Term 2 Winter 2014–2015

Course Home Page The course home page is *not* on Avenue to Learn. It can be found at

http://ms.mcmaster.ca/~haskell/math1c_14-15/ .

Please do not send email from your Avenue account, as I cannot reply to it.

Instructor Dr Deirdre Haskell HH316, ext 27244, haskell@math.mcmaster.ca

Office hours: T 10:30–12:00, F 10:30–11:30 or by appointment

Textbook *An introduction to mathematical thinking: algebra and number systems*, William Gilbert and Scott Vanstone, Pearson Prentice Hall

Course structure There are three lectures and one tutorial per week. You should plan to attend all of these.

There will be a problem sheet handed out every week. You should work on this at home, and it will be the focus of the tutorial. Additional problems from the textbook will be recommended.

There will be a reading assignment every week, about the material to be covered that week in class. You should plan to complete the reading before each week's classes, even if you do not understand everything. Come prepared to class!

Course objective The goals of the course are multiple. You will learn how to think mathematically, how to explore mathematical concepts, how to formulate conjectures, how to create proofs. You will learn something of the variety of different flavors of mathematics. Hopefully, you will form an idea of what kind of mathematics you like.

Assessment

Quizzes: 20% There will be 9 quizzes, on each Wednesday that there is not a test. The quiz mark will be based on your best 7.

Midterms : 20% each. Tentatively scheduled for the evenings of Wednesday February 4 and Wednesday March 11.

Final: 40% On a date scheduled by the registrar's office.

MSAF If you are absent from the university for a minor medical reason, lasting fewer than 5 days, you may, once per term, report your absence without documentation, using the McMaster Student Absence Form. Absences for a longer duration or for other reasons must be reported to your Faculty/Program office, with documentation, and relief from term work may not necessarily be granted. When using the MSAF, report your absence to haskell@math.mcmaster.ca. After submitting an MSAF, contact me to discuss how the work can be made up. Please note that the MSAF may not be used for term work worth 30% or more, nor can it be used for the final examination. The MSAF can be found here: <http://mcmaster.ca/msaf> , and information about its use can be found here: http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=7&navoid=559#Requests_for_Relief_for_Missed_Academic_Term_Work .

A final word on cheating All work submitted must be *your own*. At the same time, you are encouraged to discuss problems and general ideas with each other. Mathematics need not be an isolating activity. What you may not do is to copy someone else's work.

Final Policy Notes:

(i) *Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.*

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy located at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/univsec/policy/AcademicIntegrity.pdf>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.

Improper collaboration in group work.

Copying or using unauthorized aids tests and examinations.

(ii) The instructor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.