

# Syllabus for Math 4108, Abstract Algebra

January 11, 2010

**Instructor:** Ernie Croot

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Please resist the urge to email me unless it is absolutely necessary.

**Course Webpage:** [www.math.gatech.edu/~ecroot](http://www.math.gatech.edu/~ecroot) Click on the Math 4108 link from the main page.

**Office:** 103 Skiles

**Office Hours:** Tuesday 2:00 to 3:00, Wednesday 1:00-2:00.

**Class Meeting Times and Place:** MW 3:05-4:25 in Skiles 243

**Textbook:** Herstein's *Topics in Algebra*

**Grade:** 20% for each of the first two midterms, 30% for homework, and 30% for the final.

Because this is an advanced class, so long as you turn in most of the homeworks and show that you have made a sincere effort, I will give you at least a C (i.e. nobody fails unless they miss most of the classes and turn in very few HWs).

**Homeworks:** Homeworks will be collected once every two weeks.

**Course Material:** In this course you will learn about the basics of field theory, ring theory, Galois Theory, the theory of modules, algebras, and possibly some other topics like category theory. Your text does not cover all of these in detail, so I may have to write up some handouts.