Schedule: Ma 543-101 MWF 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM ILB 465

http://www.math.cornell.edu/~hatcher/AT/ATpage.html

Instructor: Prof. Scott Carter, ILB 308, 460-6264, x66756, e-mail: carter@southalabama.edu
You may address me as Dr. Carter, Professor Carter, Professor Zap, or DC. Do not refer to me as, “Ah, hey.”

Course Materials will be posted here:
http://www.southalabama.edu/mathstat/personal_pages/carter/classes.html

Office Hours: MTuWThF 10-11:30 or by appointment. You are encouraged to come to office hours to ask about the course and to get acquainted.

Lectures on new material will sometimes be posted at
http://www.youtube.com/ProfessorElvisZap

in the Topology play list. Volunteer video operators are needed. The plan is to create a sequence of 10 minute lectures that closely follow the book and/or the sections that I cover in class.

Grading Policies: All points earned are positive points. A large portion of the credit will be a result of your performance on homework. In a course such as this, it is natural and desirable to work with classmates on homework. Still, when you turn in your homework, I want you to understand that which you wrote. So I will be testing you by asking you to go to the board. Sometimes you will present sections to the class. Be aware I routinely check the r/mathhomework forum on reddit, and math.stackexchange. If you need help, ask me, another faculty member, or your classmates. Be aware I routinely check the r/mathhomework forum on reddit, and math.stackexchange. If you need help, ask me, another faculty member, or your classmates.

But understand the solution before you hand it in!

Tests: There will be 2 tests: Tuesday Feb. 18 and Tuesday Apr. 9. Each counts at least 100 points. Make-up exams will be an extreme rarity and subject to my discretion.

Final Exams The final will count at least 150 points. The official final exam schedule is found here:

http://www.southalabama.edu/registrar/dates.htm

According to my reading of the schedule any one of these times seems to fit our schedule:

• Monday May 6, 2013 3:30 PM- 5:30 PM
• Tuesday May 7, 2013 3:30 PM- 5:30 PM
• Wednesday May 8, 2013 3:30 PM -5:30 PM

My preference would be to schedule the final on Wednesday. But we can bring it up for discussion.

Scoring: I will score you fairly. Indicate to me that you are reading the book and working the homework problems.

Absences: Absent students lose privileges.
Goals for the Course: Upon successful completion of the course a student will: (1) able to compute a presentation for the fundamental group of any knot or link complement or any closed surface. (2) be able to compute the homology groups and cohomology rings of a number of standard spaces; (3) be able to use the axioms for a (co)homology theory in order to compute the homology or cohomology of a space; (4) be able to prove standard topological facts; (5) be familiar with the major results of the theory.

Other Remarks:

Special Students: If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify the instructor/professor and provide certification from Special Student Services. (OSSS is located in Room 270 of the Student Center (460-7212).

Disclaimer: The requirements and policies may be modified as circumstances dictate. Such changes will be provided to the students in class and in writing.

Academic Conduct and Disruption. See

http://www.southalabama.edu/lowdown/policies.shtml

Homework. I have compiled a list of homework problems. It is attached.

Course outline

• Week 1: topological preliminaries
• Week 2-5: fundamental group and covering spaces / knots and surfaces
• Week 6-10: homology
• Week 10-12: cohomology
• Week 13-15: group and quandle homology: an introduction