

Math 101!
November 27, 2001

Announcements:

Remember that our exam is in class this Thursday, November 29, 2001. It will cover everything we have done through Chapter N8 of the Notes, including the short set of problems from Chapter N8. You can go over that assignment in section this week and, as always, ask any questions you might have either there or by contacting me. You will not be expected to reproduce your "conceptual map" of the course so far on this exam, but making one is a good way to consolidate what we have been developing, to identify relations among important ideas, and to appreciate how various pieces are fitting together. No notes or calculators on Thursday.

As mentioned before, be prepared to state some important definitions and theorems. That does not mean you have to memorize them word for word. Rather, just from working enough with our central concepts and results, you should be able to reproduce them in forms equivalent to those given in class or in the text. At least a few of the problems on the exam should look familiar since they will be adapted from assigned and unassigned problems in the Notes, largely from Chapters 6 and 8.

Try to write your answers clearly and succinctly, of course. Include enough detail to indicate that you really would know how to state any definitions or theorems that you cite. In fact, you will receive some credit for just doing that appropriately even if you do not give a complete solution. Do not try to prove Theorem A using Theorem B if the proof of Theorem B uses Theorem A. Rather than just launching into your answers, you should have enough time to plan what you want to say briefly, and also to read it over when you are done to make sure it makes sense. Crazy round about arguments will earn less than full credit. The exam is not only a chance to show what you know, but also how well you can express what you know.

Reading: Study Chapter N9 of the Notes, and start reading Chapter N10.

Problem Set: Just a few straightforward exercises from the Notes §N9.2: #2 (easy but a good thing to know about), #3 (discussed in class), #4 (for parts b and c, just give a brief explanation in your own words rather than a proof), #5 (what do you know about metrics?) and #6 (using previous results is probably quicker than doing this directly).

Activities: Be ready for the exam. Like all graded work, go over it carefully when it is returned to make sure you now know how to correct any mistakes. Keep in mind that, when similar questions appear on the final, you will then be able to recover any points lost during the term.