

Algebraic Number Theory

January 1, 2021

<http://math.colorado.edu/~kstange/teaching.html>

1 Course Description

This will be a fairly standard course on algebraic number theory. I plan to use Matthew Baker's *Algebraic Number Theory Course Notes (Fall 2006)*, which covers the standard global theory material (standard highlights being Dirichlet's Unit Theorem and the finiteness of the class group), as well as an introduction to the local theory.

2 Pre-requisites

The course will be accessible to first-year students who can invest a little extra time; we will play catch-up on Galois Theory as needed. I will assume knowledge of ring theory, including PIDs, UFDs and Euclidean domains as usually covered in *Algebra 1* here at CU. I will briefly review commutative algebra as it is needed, but not in the depth it may deserve (so take commutative algebra properly someday).

3 Resources

I include below a few good places to look for more information. There are hundreds of books on the subject, but I restrict myself to four you should probably know about:

1. Samuel, *Algebraic theory of numbers*. This is a wonderfully direct, concise introduction to the global theory.
2. Marcus, *Number Fields*. This is frequently used as a standard in this department (covering global theory only), perhaps because it is full of examples/exercises.
3. Borevich and Shafarevich, *Number theory*. The first chapter is used as the standard for local theory in our department. This book is not just about *algebraic* number theory, and covers a wide variety of topics, including quadratic forms, local theory and analytic theory.
4. Neukirch, *Algebraic number theory*. This covers much more than a first course, both local and global, and takes a sophisticated approach from the first.

4 Credit

Homework will be assigned on a continuous basis as we cover material (approximately 1-2 problems per lecture), and every second Friday will be a presentation day, where students present and discuss the problems. Everyone registered for credit in the class will be called upon (by a roll of dice).

Students wishing to receive credit for the course shall attend lecture regularly, support a productive classroom atmosphere, and show evidence of work and understanding by having something competently prepared to present at least half the time they are called upon. Students wishing to receive an A for the course shall, in addition, complete the majority of the homework competently and thoughtfully, present most of the time they are called upon, and participate constructively in the discussion of other student presentations.

5 Virtual Format

Students will attend class via Zoom and should have a working microphone, camera and the ability to screenshare to present mathematics using some appropriate software. I greatly appreciate students keeping their camera on during class.

Video recordings of lectures, as well as PDFs of in-class 'blackboard' notes, will be available to registered students and classroom guests on canvas. They will not be publicly available (for reasons of privacy for those attending.)

6 Standard Syllabus Statements

All standard CU required syllabus statements apply to this class. See:

<https://www.colorado.edu/academicaaffairs/policies-customs-guidelines/required-syllabus-statements>

In case of illness or religious observance, please email me and arrangements will be made to accommodate an absence.