

MA40238 NUMBER THEORY 2014/15 SEMESTER 1
BRIEF COURSE INFORMATION

ZIYU ZHANG

Course Description. This unit provides an introduction to number theory for students who have some background of abstract algebra. We will cover a wide range of topics in elementary and algebraic number theory. You need to have taken Algebra 2B (MA20217 or equivalent) before taking this unit. Some familiarity of groups, rings and fields will be assumed. You should also be comfortable with reading and writing mathematical proofs.

Lecturer. Your lecturer for this unit is Dr. Ziyu Zhang. You can contact me at

zz505@bath.ac.uk

Please feel free to talk with me or send me an email if you have any questions or concerns.

Meeting Times. We meet at 9:15 on Mondays in 1W 2.103, as well as 15:15 on Tuesdays and 11:15 on Fridays in 3E 3.5. Monday and Tuesday meetings are devoted to introducing new materials, while Friday meetings usually focus on problem solving, except that in the first week all three meetings will be lectures.

Course Webpage. More detailed information about this unit can be found on

<http://people.bath.ac.uk/zz505/ma40238/>

You can also download lecture notes, exercise sheets and solutions from the course webpage when they become available. Lecture notes of Algebra 2B in the last two years are also available there for your reference.

Exercise Sheets. An exercise sheet will be given every Tuesday and due in lecture on the following Tuesday. You are not obliged but strongly recommended to submit solutions. Every exercise sheet contains four problems, which are usually ordered by difficulty. Try your best and search for help if you get stuck with any problem! They will be discussed in the exercise class on Friday.

Assessment. Students will be assessed 100% by the exam.

Date: September 26, 2014.