



MGF 3301

Bridge to Abstract Mathematics

84800 001

Fall 2026

Instructor Name

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University Course Description

Techniques and logic of the construction of proofs. Topics will be selected from propositional logic, set theory, relations and functions, equivalence relations, Boolean algebra, cardinality, and limits.

Course Requisites

Prerequisite(s):

(MAC 2313 Minimum Grade: C (may be taken during same term)
or MAC 2283 Minimum Grade: C (may be taken during same term))

Corequisite(s):

Student Learning Outcomes

After successfully completing this course:

- Students will be proficient in writing both direct and indirect proofs.
- Students will be able to decide which proof technique to employ.
- Students will be able to formulate counterexamples to demonstrate that a statement is false.

- Students will be able to identify types of mathematical statements.

Course Objectives

The main goal of this course is to learn how to write in a mature mathematical fashion. This course will provide you with a solid understanding of the material most useful for advanced courses. To learn how to write correct mathematical proofs one needs a serious commitment and work many exercises.

Required Texts and/or Readings and Course Materials

A Transition to Advanced Mathematics by Douglas Smith, 8th edition, ISBN 9798214029986

Grading Scale

This table describes the grading scale of the course.

Grading Scale						
Grade	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-
Range	100-97	96-93	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80
Grade	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
Range	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60

Grade Categories and Weights

There will be three tests (20% each), a final exam (20%), and homework (20%).

Major Topics and Course Schedule

Chapter 1: Logic and Proofs

Chapter 2: Sets and Induction

Chapter 3: Relations and Partitions

Chapter 4: Functions

Chapter 5: Cardinality (if time allows)

Tentative Course Schedule		
Week	Dates	Material
1	8/24 -- 8/30	TBD
2	8/31 -- 9/6	TBD
3	9/7 -- 9/13	TBD
4	9/14 -- 9/20	TBD

Tentative Course Schedule		
5	9/21 -- 9/27	TBD
6	9/28 -- 10/4	TBD
7	10/5 -- 10/11	TBD
8	10/12 -- 10/18	TBD
9	10/19 -- 10/25	TBD
10	10/26 -- 11/1	TBD
11	11/2 -- 11/8	TBD
12	11/9 -- 11/15	TBD
13	11/16 -- 11/22	TBD
14	11/23 -- 11/29	TBD
15	11/30 -- 12/6	TBD
16	12/7 -- 12/13	Final exam Wednesday 12/9 12:30

USF Core Syllabus Policies

USF has a set of central policies related to student recording class sessions, academic integrity and grievances, student accessibility services, academic disruption, religious observances, academic continuity, food insecurity, pregnancy and related conditions, and sexual harassment that **apply to all courses at USF**. Be sure to review these online:

<https://www.usf.edu/provost/faculty-success/resources-policies-forms/core-syllabus-policy-statements.aspx>

Student Recordings

Florida Statute 1004.097 Free Expression on Campus

Students may, without prior notice, record video or audio of a class lecture for a class in which the student is enrolled for their own personal, educational use (USF Policy 10-048). A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach enrolled students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to lab sessions, student presentations (whether individually or part of a group), class discussion, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty member is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation and class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of

the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the USF Student Conduct Code.

Course Policies: Grades

First Day Attendance Policy:

You will need to attend the first day of classes and sign the roster. Students who don't complete the first day activity run the risk of being dropped from the course.

Make-up Exams Policy:

There will be no make-up tests unless previously authorized by the instructor, or due to documented emergencies, with the approval of the instructor. Also, no late homework assignments will be accepted without justification and approval of the instructor. However, if the final exam grade is at least 80%, it will substitute the lowest of the three-midterm test grades, if advantageous to the student. All tests will be taken in class, unless for some reason we have to switch to online mode, in which case we will use Canvas and Microsoft Teams testing capabilities.

Artificial Intelligence Policy:

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools like ChatGPT is strictly prohibited for completing your graded assignments and tests in this course. Any attempt to use AI to generate solutions without proper attribution or understanding of the underlying mathematical concepts will be considered a violation of academic integrity and will result in a 0 for the assignment as well as further disciplinary action.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is expected and highly recommended. It is the responsibility of each student to know what is going on in class. Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent due to the observation of a major religious holiday must provide notice of the date in writing to the instructor by the first week of classes. Make-up examinations will only be available in cases of documented emergencies, or by previous authorization of the instructor. Any make-up examination will be given within a week of the official date for the missed test.

Final Examinations Policy:

All final exams are to be scheduled in accordance with the University's final examination policy.

Grades of "Incomplete"

The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course.

For undergraduate courses: An “I” grade may be awarded to a student only when a small portion of the student’s work is incomplete and only when the student is otherwise earning a passing grade. The time limit for removing the “I” is to be set by the instructor of the course. For undergraduate students, this time limit may not exceed two academic semesters, whether or not the student is in residence, and/or graduation, whichever comes first. For graduate students, this time limit may not exceed one academic semester. “I” grades not removed by the end of the time limit will be changed to “IF” or “IU,” whichever is appropriate.

Campus Free Expression

It is fundamental to the University of South Florida’s mission to support an environment where divergent ideas, theories, and philosophies can be openly exchanged and critically evaluated. Consistent with these principles, this course may involve discussion of ideas that you find uncomfortable, disagreeable, or even offensive.

In the instructional setting, ideas are intended to be presented in an objective manner and not as an endorsement of what you should personally believe. “Objective” means that the idea(s) presented can be tested by critical peer review and rigorous debate, and that the idea(s) is supported by credible research.

In this course you may be asked to engage with complex ideas and to demonstrate an understanding of the ideas. Understanding and engaging with an idea does not require you to believe it or to agree with it.

Course Policies: Technology and Media

Phones, laptops and other electronic equipment can be used to record an Instructor’s class lecture (for personal use), or to take class notes. Talk to the instructor for permission to use them in the classroom for other purposes.

Course Policies: Student Expectations

Health and Wellness

Your health is a priority at the University of South Florida. We encourage members of our community to look out for each other and to reach out for help if someone is in need. If you or someone you know is in distress, please make a referral at www.usf.edu/sos so that the Student Outreach & Support can contact

and provide helpful resources to the student in distress. A 24-hour licensed mental healthcare professional, offered through the counseling center, is available by phone at 813-974-2831, option 3. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, please dial 9-1-1.

Title IX Policy

USF is committed to fostering a safe and respectful learning environment, free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment, in accordance with Title IX and USF Policy 0-004. If a student shares an experience of sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, or relationship violence with a USF employee (including faculty), that employee will notify the Title IX Office. This allows the Title IX Office to send the student an email with information about support resources and options—if it is safe to do so. Students are not required to respond to this email. The Title IX Office is a private resource. Information is shared only on a need-to-know basis to provide students with support measures. To speak to a confidential resource, students may contact USF Center for Victim Advocacy at 813-974-5757. Confidential resources do not notify the Title IX Office unless the student requests it. For more information about Title IX, available resources, or to make a report, please visit www.usf.edu/title-ix.

Course Hero / Chegg Policy

The USF Policy on Academic Integrity specifies that students may not use websites that enable cheating, such as by uploading or downloading material for this purpose. This does apply specifically to Chegg.com and CourseHero.com – almost any use of these websites (including uploading proprietary materials) constitutes a violation of the academic integrity policy.

Professionalism Policy

Per university policy and classroom etiquette; mobile phones, iPods, etc. must be silenced during all classroom and lab lectures. Those not heeding this rule will be asked to leave the classroom/lab immediately so as to not disrupt the learning environment. Please arrive on time for all class meetings. Students who habitually disturb the class by talking, arriving late, etc., and have been warned may suffer a reduction in their final class grade.

Turnitin.com

In this course, turnitin.com may be utilized. Turnitin is an automated system which instructors may use to quickly and easily compare each student's assignment with billions of web sites, as well as an enormous database of student papers that grows with each submission. Accordingly, you may be expected to submit all assignments in both hard copy and electronic format. After the assignment is processed, as instructor I receive a report from turnitin.com that states if and how another author's work was used in the assignment. For a more detailed look at this process visit <http://www.turnitin.com>.

Netiquette Guidelines

- Act professionally in the way you communicate. Treat your instructors and peers with respect, the same way you would do in a face-to-face environment. Respect other people's ideas and be constructive when explaining your views about points you may not agree with.
- Be sensitive. Be respectful and sensitive when sharing your ideas and opinions. There will be people in your class with different linguistic backgrounds, political and religious beliefs or other general differences.
- Proofread and check spelling. Doing this before sending an email or posting a thread on a discussion board will allow you to make sure your message is clear and thoughtful. Avoid the use of all capital letters, it can be perceived as if you are shouting, and it is more difficult to read.
- Keep your communications focused and stay on topic. Complete your ideas before changing the subject. By keeping the message on focus you allow the readers to easily get your idea or answers they are looking for.
- Be clear with your message. Avoid using humor or sarcasm. Since people can't see your expressions or hear your tone of voice, meaning can be misinterpreted.

Email and Discussion Board Guidelines

- Use the subject line effectively by using a meaningful line of what your email or discussion is about.
- Keep your emails and postings related to the course content. You should not post anything personal on a discussion board unless it is requested by the instructor.
- Any personal, course or confidential issues should be directly communicated to the instructor via email. The discussion boards are public spaces; therefore, any issues should not be posted there.

End of Semester Student Evaluations

All classes at USF make use of an online system for students to provide feedback to the University regarding the course. These surveys will be made available at the end of the semester, and the University will notify you by email when the response window opens. Your participation is highly encouraged and valued.

Food and Drink Policy (for in-campus sessions only).

Please adhere to the firm policy of no beverages (other than bottled/capped water), food, tobacco products, or like items in the classroom. Your understanding of the necessity for this policy and cooperation will be greatly appreciated. This policy will be strictly enforced.

Learning Support and Campus Offices

Academic Accommodations

Students with disabilities are responsible for registering with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in order to receive academic accommodations. For additional information about academic accommodations and resources, you can visit the SAS website.

[SAS website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout site.](#)

[SAS website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Academic Support Services

The USF Office of Student Success coordinates and promotes university-wide efforts to enhance undergraduate and graduate student success. For a comprehensive list of academic support services available to all USF students, please visit the [Office of Student Success website.](#)

Canvas Technical Support

If you have technical difficulties in Canvas, you can find access to the Canvas guides and video resources in the “Canvas Help” page on the homepage of your

Canvas course. You can also contact the help desk by calling 813-974-1222 in Tampa or emailing help@usf.edu.

[USF IT Services](#)

Center for Victim Advocacy

The [Center for Victim Advocacy](#) empowers survivors of crime, violence, or abuse by promoting the restoration of decision making, by advocating for their rights, and by offering support and resources. Contact information is available online.

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center promotes the wellbeing of the campus community by providing culturally sensitive counseling, consultation, prevention, and training that enhances student academic and personal success. Contact information is available online.

[Counseling Center website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout site.](#)

[Counseling Center website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Tutoring

The Tutoring Hub offers free tutoring in several subjects to USF undergraduates. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information, email asctampa@usf.edu.

[Tutoring website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout site.](#)

[Tutoring website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Writing Studio

The Writing Studio is a free resource for USF undergraduate and graduate students. At the Writing Studio, a trained writing consultant will work individually with you, at any point in the writing process from brainstorming to editing. Appointments are recommended, but not required. For more information or to make an appointment, email: writingstudio@usf.edu.

[Writing studio website for the Tampa campus and Sarasota-Manatee Teachout Site.](#)

[Writing studio website for the St. Pete campus.](#)

Student Ombuds Office

Florida Statute 1006.51 and Florida Board of Governors Regulation 6.011 require that all public institutions provide ombuds services to students. The Student Ombuds Office at USF is a confidential, impartial, informal, and independent resource for students experiencing challenges related to the university. Ombuds can help students safely explore options, clarify processes, and consider next steps. [Learn more or make an appointment at usf.edu/student-ombuds.](https://usf.edu/student-ombuds)