

## GENERAL REMARKS

The texts for the course are the following two books:

**J. R. Munkres.** *Topology* (Second Edition), *Prentice-Hall, Saddle River NJ*, 2000. ISBN: 0-13-181629-2.

**A. Hatcher.** *Algebraic Topology* (Third Paperback Printing), *Cambridge University Press, New York NY*, 2002. ISBN: 0-521-79540-0.

**The book by Hatcher can be legally downloaded from the Internet at no cost for personal use,** and here is the link to the online version:

[www.math.cornell.edu/~hatcher/AT/ATpage.html](http://www.math.cornell.edu/~hatcher/AT/ATpage.html)

A substantial amount of additional course material will be posted online to a course directory

<http://math.ucr.edu/~res/math205B-2012>

including an outline ([coursetopics2012.pdf](#)), which lists the course topics and keys them to sections of the course texts, and a set of more or less self-contained notes for the course ([algtop-notes.pdf](#)). Additional information on the course directory is given below.

**Contact information.** My office is Surge 221, and it is around the corner from the Department's administrative front desk (Surge 202). Office hours will be announced. My office telephone number is 951-827-6459 (as usual, suppress the area code from inside the 951 region, and also replace the 827 by a 2 if calling from an extension at UCR). Another highly recommended option is electronic mail; my full address is [schultz@math.ucr.edu](mailto:schultz@math.ucr.edu), and [reinhard.schultz@ucr.edu](mailto:reinhard.schultz@ucr.edu) is another valid address. Use of electronic mail is often easier than trying to play telephone tag. **IMPORTANT:** The default filters for electronic mail on the Department network are not very restrictive and sometimes there is an enormous amount of garbage in my electronic mailbox. Therefore I **strongly recommend** that you include something like **Math 205B** in the subject heading so that your message does not get inadvertently deleted without being read. Also, since the authors of junk messages often use only capital letters in their subject headings, this should be avoided as well.

**Grading policy:** There will be two in-class examinations, the first of which is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, and will count for 35 per cent of the course grade. The second examination will take place on Friday, March 14 (the last day of the tenth week), and it will count for 45 per cent of the course grade. There will also be one written take-home assignments that will count for the remaining 20 per cent of the grade. The due date will be announced, and at least one week will be given for its completion.

Although homework problems will not be collected or graded, students are responsible for knowing how to do all the unstarred exercises listed on the course homework file; the starred exercises are generally more challenging, and trying them is recommended as a way of testing one's understanding of the course material. Some problems from the homework are likely to appear on the examinations.

No books, notes or electronic devices (including cell phones) can be used during examinations.

**Course handouts and notes:** All printed handouts for the course will be available on the World Wide Web from the previously mentioned site (note the year!!):

<http://www.math.ucr.edu/~res/math205B-2012>

The contents of this directory include a copy of this handout ([aabInformation.pdf](#)), the course outline mentioned previously, informal course notes, not necessarily identical to material covered in lectures), the homework assignments and (some) solutions, and various files containing supplementary material. All files

except a few ordinary text files are pdf files which can be opened, downloaded, and they can be read or printed with the free Acrobat readers that are available or easily downloadable on most if not all electronic communications devices (desktop or laptop computers, tablets or smartphones).

There are also directories containing background material from some fairly closely related courses in the directory

`http://math.ucr.edu/~res`

including directories for older versions of the 205 courses.

**IMPORTANT.** (1) *Please contact me immediately if you have problems viewing or printing out any of these files.*

(2) *These files are only intended for classroom purposes and are not meant for widespread public circulation.* In some cases further distribution may be a violation of copyright laws or the terms of use for material in the files.

**Further comments.** Student questions during primary class sessions are encouraged. Please do not hesitate to ask questions, especially if you do not understand something or if something in the lecture seems wrong — even if everyone else seems to understand. Questions on homework or review are generally best answered at the beginning of class and should be asked at that time. In general such questions are encouraged, but in some cases it might be necessary to limit such question periods or to post the answers online after class.

I shall attempt to answer electronic messages regarding the course in a reasonably timely manner, especially during regular working hours, and in some instances outside of such hours (but there are no guarantees). Complete answers to more complicated questions may require additional time.

**Disability issues:** Students who have been certified as eligible for academic adjustments under existing laws should contact the primary instructor within the next week with the necessary supporting materials. Further information on campus services for students with disabilities is available at the following sites:

`http://www.specialservices.ucr.edu/swd/default.html`

`http://www.specialservices.ucr.edu/swd/aboutus.html`