

Updated: August 29, 2012

Location:	Herman Brown 227
Time:	Mon/Wed/Fri 1:00-1:50pm
Instructor:	Michael Boshernitzan michael-at-rice-dot-edu ext. 5209
Office:	Herman Brown 442,
Office Hours:	Wednesday 3:00-4:00pm
Teaching Assistant:	Taylor Coon taylor-dot-coon-at-rice-dot-edu
Class Webpage:	dralgo.com/mbrice, or math.rice.edu/~michael (go to "Fall 2012. Teaching" in the end of the page).

Course description

We will study properties of integers: divisibility, prime numbers and congruences. We will study further concepts in number theory: Quadratic Reciprocity, basic Diophantine Equations, Farey and Simple Continued fractions. While this is an introductory class, no calculus or higher math is assumed, we will learn various methods for writing proofs.

Textbook

An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers (5-th edition), John Wiley & Sons, 1991. (Required).
Authors: Ivan Niven, Herbert S. Zuckerman, Hugh L. Montgomery.

The course will cover Chapters 1,2 and most of Chapters 3-5.

Grading

The final grade will consist of homework (60%), two exams (40%=2×20%) and extra credit (for optional challenge problems). There will be no final exam. The dates of two exams will be determined later. Students will be offered optional challenge problems for earning extra credit.

Homework

Homeworks will be assigned every **Friday** and will be due the following **Friday** in class (or before class) unless otherwise stated. You may work together on the homework, but write up your solutions independently. The lowest homework grade will be dropped.

Homework solutions must be legible. Late homeworks will not be graded.

Disability Support

It is the policy of Rice University that any student with a disability receive fair and equal treatment in this course. If you have a documented disability that requires academic adjustments or accommodations, please speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities should also contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Centre.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to comply with Rice University's standards for academic integrity.

Disclaimer statement

The information contained in the course syllabus may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Homework Webpage TBA