

# theory of numbers

s.m. lewis

hertz 225  
hours: m,w,f 10:00am  
appointments gleefully  
accepted

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**meeting times**  
monday, wednesday, and friday: 2:00pm  
**meeting place**  
boullion 106

**text**  
**silverman, j.h. (2005).** *a friendly introduction to number theory, 3rd ed.*  
upper saddle river, nj: prentice hall, inc

**spring 2009 calendar**  
... [click here](#) ...

**attendance is not mandatory, however, there is a high correlation  
between attending class, keeping up on assignments and receiving  
a's and b's in the course.**

details

## number and space ...

"a mathematician, like a painter or a poet, is a maker of patterns. If his patterns are more permanent than theirs, it is because they are made with *ideas*. a painter makes patterns with shapes and colours, a poet with words ... the mathematicians patterns, like the painter's or the poet's, must be *beautiful* ...

g. h. hardy, *a mathematician's apology*

## student learner outcomes

the most important things you learn in school are not going to be measurable, sorry. in fact, the absolute best service a list of 'student learner outcomes' could possibly provide is as a random sample of behavioral objectives. that said, at the end of this course, you will



tion

**descrip**

have a reasonable facility (as measured by the evaluation procedures described above) in tba

**note**

students with disabilities who wish to set up academic adjustments in this class should give me a copy of their *confirmation of eligibility for academic adjustments* from the disability support services office so that we can meet in order to discuss how the approved adjustments will be implemented in this class. students with disabilities without this form should contact the disability support services office, bouillon 205 or dssrecept@cwu.edu or 963-2171 as soon as possible.

**no, no, no!**

no late assignments, no early tests, no late tests, no make-up tests (including finals ... be there).

**2 midterms (30% ea.)**  
times to be announced

**final (40%)**  
to be announced

**evaluation****on line**

**on line sources are a good start. the two outstanding features of the web are firstly, the ease with which communication can take place across political, social, and economic boundaries, and secondly, the accessibility of timely and accurate information. beware, beyond this**

## references

**there are drawbacks to the medium. it is much more difficult to 'get published' in a book or a journal than on line. in fact, any old hack with an internet connection can 'publish.' as a result, the quality of material on the web varies wildly and noncritical acceptance of posted information is a real problem.**

[number theory web](#)

[math archives number theory page](#)

[the prime pages](#)

[clark university history of mathematics home page](#)

[university of st. andrews history of mathematics archive](#)

[nichomachus of gerasa](#)

### off line

**still the best. it may be that sitting around a campfire telling stories is to books as books are to the world wide web, but i think not. nothing beats the stability and reliability of printed literature.**

### books

- burn, r.p. (1997). *a pathway into number theory*. new york: cambridge university press.
- burton, d.m. (1989). *elementary number theory*. dubuque, ia.: wm. c. brown publishers.
- courant, r., and robbins, h. (1967). *what is mathematics?* new york: oxford university press.
- dickson, l.e. (1966). *history of the theory of numbers*. three volumes. new york: chelsea.
- hardy, g.h. (1993). *a mathematicians apology*. new york: cambridge university press.
- heath, sir thomas l. (1981). *a history of greek mathematics, vol. i from thales to euclid*. new york: dover publications.
- loomis, e.s. (1968). *the pythagorean proposition*. washington, d.c.: the national council of teachers of mathematics.
- ore, oystein. (1988). *number theory and its history*. new york: dover publications.

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There's no place like [home](#).