

# Topology Math 581, Fall 2021: Basic information

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Krzysztof Chris Ciesielski

**OFFICE:** 308G Armstrong Hall

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**OFFICE HOURS:** before/after class; via zoom; by appointment

**CLASS TIME:** T and Th 11:30 am - 12:45pm

**TEXTBOOK:** Topology, 2nd edition, by Munkres  
you must have access to this text

**CLASS MEETINGS:** at 313 Armstrong Hall; via zoom, if needed

**ZOOM CLASS LINK:** for any class related meeting

<https://wvu.zoom.us/j/96817614242?pwd=MIF1Y05ET1c3b0QvMWtFTmF5MjJFdz09>

# Technology

- All class meetings will be in 313 Armstrong, as scheduled, unless some exceptions will be needed, in which case we will meet by zoom.
- All class written material will be posted on the ecampus.
- All written homework assignments will be posted on Crowdmark, accessible via ecampus. Your solutions, written on a regular paper, will need to be photographed and uploaded back to Crowdmark, where I will do my grading. You can view this grading afterwards on Crowdmark. Other assignments may also be graded on Crowdmark.
- Other means of communication, beside class meeting and before/after class office hours, will be via e-mail and via zoom office hours.

# General class format

I will use this semester a **flipped classroom model** (which I used last year with very good results). This means that before any regularly scheduled class meeting you will be asked to read and learn (as much as possible) the new material by yourself. The material will be indicated in the online class notes and presented either at these notes or in the course textbook. The class time will be used to discuss the material you have read, clarify any unclear issues you may have with it, and to concentrate on deepening your understanding of the new definitions and results. This will be done in as much interactive way as possible. In particular, we will concentrate on solving problems associated with the material. I expect that the solutions will be found during the class time by the students, allowing for interactive discussions between students and, if necessary, me.

# Planned class activities and assessments

- At the beginning of most class meetings I will give 5-10 minutes quizzes designed to check if you read the assigned material and know definitions/terminology.
- Next, I will briefly summarize assigned material and inquire on any problems you might have with it. Your input into this part will be required. If you do not inquire on any part of the material you read, I may ask one of the students to present and/or explain some parts of the assigned material.
- Next, we will try to get deeper into the subject, via discussing different examples and trying to solve some related problems during the meeting time. Your participation in this will part be required.

## More on the assessments: homework

After most of the meetings you will be assigned at least one homework assignment. I envision two kinds of such assignments:

- 1 To write solutions of the problems that have been discussed and solved during the class meeting. These will always have very close due dates and the aim for this work will be: (a) to ensure your understanding of the solution(s); (b) to boost your ability to well express your mathematical ideas in writing.
- 2 To solve problems that you have never seen before. These will have a bit longer due dates, probably a week.

In all homework assignments I will be routinely asking you to rewrite solutions that are either incorrect or that, in my opinion, need more explanation.

# Tentative grading scheme

I expect to give you the mid term test and the final test. Each of these two tests will be worth 30% of your final grade. The remaining 40% of your grade will come from homework (30%) and quizzes (10%). Some of your in-class activities can be included in the homework part of grading.

Let me also emphasize that some of the exercises (in tests and homework) might be more difficult than the others and I understand that it may be hard for you to solve all exercises during the semester. However, to be at the "A" level for the class I will expect you to have at least 80% of your maximum class score, with each 10% below this number resulting by losing one point grade.