

**Directions:** Solve the following problems. See the course syllabus and the Homework Webpage on the course website for general directions and guidelines.

1. Prove that  $p$  is the smallest prime that divides  $(p-1)! + 1$ .
2. Primes.
  - (a) Let  $p$  be prime and let  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Prove that if  $a^{p-1} + p - 1$  is prime, then  $|a| = 1$  or  $p \mid a$ .
  - (b) Conclude that if  $p$ ,  $q$ , and  $q^{p-1} + p - 1$  are all prime, then  $p = q$ .
3. [NT 5-2.4] Let  $k = \phi(m)$ . Prove that if  $r_1, \dots, r_k$  is a reduced residue system modulo  $m$  and  $m$  is odd, then  $r_1 + r_2 + \dots + r_k \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ .
4. [NT 5-3.4]
  - (a) Prove that for each  $n$ , there are  $n$  consecutive integers, each of which is divisible by a perfect square larger than 1.
  - (b) Using your proof above, explicitly find 3 consecutive integers, each of which is divisible by a perfect square larger than 1. In your answer, give the integers as well as the corresponding perfect squares.
5. [NT 5-4.1] Find the set of solutions to the following system of congruences:

$$2x \equiv 1 \pmod{5}$$

$$3x \equiv 9 \pmod{6}$$

$$4x \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$5x \equiv 9 \pmod{11}$$

6. Let  $A = \{a^2 - b^2 : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Give a simple characterization of  $A$  (with proof of correctness).
7. [Challenge] Prove that if  $n \geq 2$ , then the sum  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$  is not an integer.