

MATH 441/841 – General Topology

Fall 2026

General information

Instructor: Martin Frankland

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Office: CW 307.17

Office hours: TBA

Office hours are held both in person and on Zoom (link posted on UR Courses).

Lectures: MWF 11:30 AM - 12:20 PM in Classroom Building 305.

Textbook: James Munkres, *Topology*, Second Edition.

Prerequisite: MATH 305.

UR Courses: <https://urcourses.uregina.ca/>

This site will contain announcements and additional course material. The site is updated throughout the semester, so please check back regularly.

Course outline

Topology is the study of spaces. Whereas geometry studies notions like lengths, angles, and size, topology only sees the shape of a space and its qualitative features. That is why topology is sometimes called “rubber-sheet geometry”.

The course is an introduction to point set topology. We will cover topics such as: metric spaces, topological spaces, continuous functions, separation axioms, countability axioms, connectedness, compactness, Tychonoff’s theorem, Urysohn’s lemma, and the Tietze extension theorem.

Some of the more advanced topics we may cover include: metrization theorems, paracompactness, function spaces, nets and filters, and uniform spaces.

As the course progresses, we will try to highlight connections between point set topology and other branches of mathematics. For instance:

- The Banach fixed point theorem has applications to differential equations.
- The Baire category theorem has applications to functional analysis.
- Paracompactness and partitions of unity have applications to differential geometry.
- Compactly generated spaces have applications to algebraic topology.

Grading scheme

- Homework: 20%
- Final Exam: 50%
- Project: 30%

Course delivery and computer requirements

The course is taught **in person**. Lectures, presentations, and the Final Exam all take place on campus.

Office hours will be offered both in person and on Zoom.

Exam

- Final Exam: **Monday December 21**, 9 AM - 12 PM.

The Final Exam covers the entire semester.

The exam will be **open book**: the textbook, notes, and class material are allowed. More details will be provided as to which resources are allowed and which are not.

Homework

Homework will be assigned more or less weekly and submitted in class or on UR Courses. Selected problems from each assignment will be graded.

Late homework will not be accepted.

The **lowest homework score** will be dropped.

For students registered in MATH 841: Each homework assignment will contain one designated graduate problem, which is part of the assignment for MATH 841 but not for MATH 441.

Project

You will work on a project on a topic of your choice related to the course. The project consists of two components:

- An expository written report, worth 20%.
- An oral presentation, worth 10%.

Missed course work

General information about missed course work can be found in the *Graduate Calendar*, section “Grading System / Deferral of Final Examination and/or Term Work”, available at:

<https://www.uregina.ca/graduate-studies-research/graduate-calendar/>

Schedule conflicts: If you have a schedule conflict between an exam and another course or university sponsored activity (e.g. conference, sports tournament), please contact me in advance, **no later than a week before the exam** in question.

Illness: If you are unable to meet a course requirement due to illness or other serious circumstances, please contact me as soon as possible.

Homework: If you miss a homework assignment for any reason, it will count as the lowest assignment being dropped. There will be no make-up homework.

Final: You will need to submit the form *Deferral of term work and/or final exam*. The version for undergraduate students is available at:

<https://www.uregina.ca/registrar/assets/docs/pdf/forms/deferral-form.pdf>

and the version for graduate students is available at:

<https://www.uregina.ca/graduate-studies-research/assets/docs/registration-docs/graduate-deferral-form.pdf>

For more information, please contact the Science Academic Hub:

<https://www.uregina.ca/science/student/>

Academic integrity

Working on homework with your peers is allowed. However, each student must write **their own** solutions. Handing in suspiciously similar solutions will be considered an instance of cheating.

Handing in any material copied from the internet or another source (including Artificial Intelligence) will likewise be considered cheating. **Cite sources** that you consult, for instance Wikipedia, Math Stack Exchange, online course notes, or AI tools.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and will not be tolerated. For more information, please consult the *Graduate Calendar*, section “Policies and Procedures of the University / Academic Conduct and Misconduct”.

Accessibility

Any student with special needs who may need accommodation should contact Student Accessibility at:

<https://www.uregina.ca/accessibility/student/>

After I receive the letter from Student Accessibility, please contact me to discuss the accommodation.