Math 489 and Math 575P: Problem Solving Fall 2014

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Course web page: www.math.binghamton.edu/mazur/teach/48914/48914.html

Office Hours: M, F 2:00-3:00, T 2:00-2:45. Also by appointment.

Textbook:

The Art and Craft of Problem-Solving, by Paul Zeitz.

Homework: Homework will be collected regularly. Assignments and corresponding due dates will be posted on the course web page. Solutions will be collected and graded. Solutions will be discussed in class.

Tests: There will be one test, a final exam and the Putnam Exam.

Date of the test: Monday, October 27.

Date of the final exam: Monday, December 15, 12:50-14:50, S2 260.

Date of the Putnam Exam: Saturday, December 6, 10:00-1:00 and 3:00-6:00 PM

Grading Policy: Grades will be based on a combination of homework, class participation, the test, and the final. Anyone who solves a problem on the Putnam Exam and is doing satisfactory class work/homework will automatically receive an A.

This course is a 4-credit course, which means that in addition to the scheduled meeting times, students are expected to do at least 9.5 hours of course-related work outside of class each week during the semester. This includes time spent completing assigned readings, studying for tests and examinations, participating in lab sessions, preparing written assignments, and other course-related tasks.

Final Remarks: You are responsible for attending class, behaving in class, taking class notes, doing homework problems, asking for and coming in for help, etc.; in the end, you are responsible for your success in this class so work hard! Late arrivals, early departures, cell phone conversations, eating, or drinking are not appropriate. It is your

responsibility to keep informed of all announcements, syllabus adjustments, or policy changes made during scheduled classes. Both class attendance and systematic work on the homework problems are crucial for the success in this class.

All the above information is tentative. I reserve the right to make reasonable changes if I find it necessary.