1. **Title of the module**

MAST5660 - Number Theory

1. **Division and School/Department or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Division of Computing, Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (CEMS)

School of Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 5

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

Pre-requisite: MAST4001 (Algebra and Proofs) or MAST4005 (Linear Algebra)

Co-requisite: None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Optional to the following courses: BSc Mathematics, BSc Mathematics and Accounting and Finance (including programmes with a Year in Industry), BSc Mathematics with Secondary Education, BSc Mathematics with a Foundation Year, MMath Mathematics

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

8.1 demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles within Number Theory;

8.2 demonstrate the capability to use a range of established techniques and a reasonable level of skill in calculation and manipulation of the material to solve problems in the following areas: integers, prime numbers, congruences, arithmetic functions, quadratic residues, Diophantine equations;

8.3 apply the concepts and principles in Number Theory in well-defined contexts beyond those in which they were first studied, showing the ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different tools and techniques;

8.4 make appropriate use of Maple.

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**

Demonstrate an increased ability to:

9.1 manage their own learning and make use of appropriate resources;

9.2 understand logical arguments, identifying the assumptions made and the conclusions drawn;

9.3 communicate straightforward arguments and conclusions reasonably accurately and clearly;

9.4 manage their time and use their organisational skills to plan and implement efficient and effective modes of working;

9.5 solve problems relating to qualitative and quantitative information;

9.6 make use of information technology skills such as online resources (Moodle), internet communication;

9.7 communicate technical material competently.

9.8 demonstrate an increased level of skill in numeracy and computation.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

The security of our phone calls, bank transfers, etc. all rely on one area of Mathematics: Number Theory. This module is an elementary introduction to this wide area and focuses on solving Diophantine equations. In particular, we discuss (without proof) Fermat's Last Theorem, arguably one of the most spectacular mathematical achievements of the twentieth century. Outline syllabus includes: Modular Arithmetic; Prime Numbers; Introduction to Cryptography; Quadratic Residues; Diophantine Equations.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

The University is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are in accessible electronic format in line with the Kent Inclusive Practices.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the university's [reading list pages](https://kent.rl.talis.com/index.html).

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Contact hours: 42

Private study: 108

Total: 150

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

Assessment 1 Exercises, requiring on average between 10 and 15 hours to complete 10%

Assessment 2 Exercises, requiring on average between 10 and 15 hours to complete 10%

Examination 2 hours 80%

The coursework mark alone will not be sufficient to demonstrate the student’s level of achievement on the module.

13.2 Reassessment methods

Like-for-like

1. **Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)**

**Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.7 | 9.8 |
| Private study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lectures and example class activity | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |
| Revision classes | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** |  | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |

**Module learning outcomes against assessment methods:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.7 | 9.8 |
| Examination | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** |
| Coursework | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The Division recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

Mathematics is an international language with techniques developed and refined by mathematicians across the globe. Mastery of the subject-specific learning outcomes, 8.1 to 8.4, will equip students to apply the theories and techniques of this module in a wide range of international contexts. The module team is drawn from the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Actuarial Science, which includes many members of staff with international experience of teaching and research collaboration.

In compiling the reading list, consideration has been given to the range of texts that are available internationally and a selection of texts has been identified to complement the delivery of the material.

The support SMSAS provides to its students is also internationally attuned given our international student body.

**DIVISIONAL SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 01/02/2023 | Minor | Sept 2024 | 5,14 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |