

Math 597D: Elliptic Curves
Fall 2009
MWF 01:25-02:15 102 Pond

Instructor

Mihran Papikian

Office: McAllister Building, Room 423

Email: papikian@math.psu.edu

Office Hours: Thursday 3:40-4:40pm and by appointment.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the theory of elliptic curves - a beautiful and important area of current number theory. I will assume familiarity with algebra and some algebraic number theory. We will try to cover most of the topics in Joseph Silverman's book "The Arithmetic of Elliptic Curves". This is the suggested reference.

Grades

There will be occasional homework exercises but no exams. Each problem on the homeworks will have an assigned value. Your grades will be calculated according to the following table:

Your Total Score (= the sum of all homework scores)/Total Possible Points

| | |
|---------|----|
| >.85 | A |
| .85-.81 | A- |
| .80-.76 | B+ |
| .75-.70 | B |
| < .70 | B- |

Academic Integrity

Students are required to adhere to Penn State's Policy on Academic Integrity.