Introduction to Modern Algebra (Math2008)
(Semester 2, 2003)

Web Site

All information about this unit of study can be found on the web page
Please consult this page regularly throughout the semester.

Classes

Lectures are at 9:00 am Tuesdays in Carslaw 175 and 9:00 am Thursdays in Carslaw 275. Students
should also attend one computer tutorial and one standard tutorial each week, starting in the 2nd
week of the semester. Note that you will benefit more from the tutorials if you attempt the
questions beforehand.

The times and locations for computer tutorials are as follows: Monday 10:00 am in Carslaw
610/611, Monday 2:00 pm in Carslaw 610/611, Tuesday 10:00 am in Carslaw 729/730.

The times and locations for standard tutorials are as follows: Tuesday 11:00 am in Eastern Avenue
312, Thursday 10:00 am in Carslaw 350, Friday 11:00 am in Carslaw 350.

Please attend the tutorial to which you have been timetabled. If exceptional circumstances force
you to miss your scheduled tutorial class then you may attend another instead.

In the computer tutorials we shall be using the computer algebra package MAGMA to investigate
inner product spaces and to learn about group theory. There will be problems for you to solve
each week: these are complementary to the problems in the standard tutorials and are designed
to help you understand the theory presented in lectures. You will be expected to learn some basic
MAGMA commands: the assignments may require the use of MAGMA and there will be questions
in the examination about the use of MAGMA.

Lecturer

The lecturer is A/Prof Bob Howlett, whose room is Carslaw 523. Office hours: 12:00 – 2:00
Mondays and 1:00 – 2:00 Tuesdays.

Assessment

The examination is two hours in length and carries 85% of the assessment. The other 15% is made
up as follows: assignments 10%, tutorial participation 5%. Your tutor will record your attendance
and participation in the standard tutorials; your attendance at the computer tutorials will be
monitored via computer log in records.

Handouts

Tutorial, Computer Tutorial, and Assignment sheets will usually be distributed in the Thursday
Lecture. Handouts will be available from the Carslaw seventh floor “bins” after they have been
distributed in lectures.

Tutorial and Assignment Solutions

Tutorial and assignment solutions will be made available from Kopystop, 55 Mountain Street,
Ultimo. They will also be available for web download. Links will be placed on the web page in
due course.

Notes

Notes on each week’s lecture material will also be available via Kopystop and the internet. The
versions for the year 2002 are currently available; they may be updated as the semester proceeds
(if misprints are found).