



ACE Network Subject Information Guide

Topological Groups

Semester 2, 2022

Administration and contact details

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Subject details

Handbook entry URL	Click here to enter text.
Subject homepage URL	Click here to enter text.
Honours student hand-out URL	Click here to enter text.

Start date:	July 18th, 2022
End date:	October 28th, 2022
Contact hours per week:	2
Census date:	August 12th, 2022
Lecture day(s) and time(s):	TBA
Description of electronic access arrangements for students (for example, WebCT)	Click here to enter text.

Subject content

1. Subject content description

Topological groups combine continuity and symmetry. The focus of this course is on locally compact groups, which are the exact setting to which the methods of differentiation, integration and linear algebra seen in 1st-year mathematics extend. These extended methods then apply to such fields as mathematical physics, harmonic analysis and number theory. The course thus offers a deeper perspective on key topics in undergraduate mathematics and provides a foundation for further work in several fields.

The course develops the theory of locally compact groups to the point where the solution of Hilbert's Fifth problem (a major milestone of 20th century mathematics) and the existence of the Haar integral can be understood. These theorems will be illustrated with examples and proved in special cases. (Complete proofs would take another course.) The latter part of the course introduces recent introduces much more recent ideas on totally disconnected, or 0-dimensional, groups.

2. Week-by-week topic overview

1. Definition of topological groups. Examples.
2. Basic structure of topological groups. Locally compact groups and fields.
3. Continuous functions and uniform continuity. Integrals on function spaces.
4. Translation-invariant (Haar) integrals exists and are unique. Examples.
5. The modular function. More examples.

6. Matrix groups are examples of Lie groups. Projective limits. Profinite groups.
7. Hilbert’s Fifth Problem. Approximation by Lie groups. Examples.
8. Approximation of compact groups by matrix groups.
9. Totally disconnected, locally compact (t.d.l.c.) groups. Van Dantzig’s Theorem. Examples.
10. The scale function and minimising subgroups.
11. Tidy subgroups, characterisation of minimising subgroups. Proofs and examples.
12. Either a) proof of existence of the Haar integral on t.d.l.c. groups, or b) flat groups of automorphisms of a t.d.l.c. group.

3. Assumed prerequisite knowledge and capabilities

Topology: compactness, connectedness, the product topology.

Algebra: groups and fields, linear algebra.

Analysis: Riemann integration.

Discrete mathematics: graphs, modular arithmetic.

Students are expected to transfer their current knowledge to new contexts, work independently on exercises, write clear solutions, and follow logical arguments.

4. Learning outcomes and objectives

- Advanced knowledge and skills in topological algebra.
- View of higher level connections between elementary topics in the undergraduate program.
- Foundation for further work in functional analysis, algebra, mathematical physics, or number theory.
- Experience with writing proofs.

AQF specific Program Learning Outcomes and Learning Outcome Descriptors (if available):

AQF Program Learning Outcomes addressed in this subject	Associated AQF Learning Outcome Descriptors for this subject
Advanced knowledge and skills in topological algebra	K1: coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines
View of higher level connections between elementary topics in the undergraduate program	S2: cognitive and technical skills to demonstrate a broad understanding of a body of knowledge and theoretical concepts with advanced understanding in some areas

Advanced knowledge and skills in topological algebra	S4: technical skills to design and use in a research project
Foundation for further work in functional analysis, algebra, mathematical physics, or number theory	S4: technical skills to design and use in a research project
Experience with writing proofs	S5: communication skills to present clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences
Foundation for further work in functional analysis, algebra, mathematical physics, or number theory	A2: to adapt knowledge and skills in diverse contexts
Insert Program Learning Outcome here	Choose from list below

Learning Outcome Descriptors at AQF Level 8

Knowledge

K1: coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in one or more disciplines

K2: knowledge of research principles and methods

Skills

S1: cognitive skills to review, analyse, consolidate and synthesise knowledge to identify and provide solutions to complex problem with intellectual independence

S2: cognitive and technical skills to demonstrate a broad understanding of a body of knowledge and theoretical concepts with advanced understanding in some areas

S3: cognitive skills to exercise critical thinking and judgement in developing new understanding

S4: technical skills to design and use in a research project

S5: communication skills to present clear and coherent exposition of knowledge and ideas to a variety of audiences

Application of Knowledge and Skills

A1: with initiative and judgement in professional practice and/or scholarship

A2: to adapt knowledge and skills in diverse contexts

A3: with responsibility and accountability for own learning and practice and in collaboration with others within broad parameters

A4: to plan and execute project work and/or a piece of research and scholarship with some independence

5. Learning resources

Complete lecture notes and exercise sheets will be provided.

6. Assessment

Exam/assignment/classwork breakdown					
Exam	60	Assignment	40	Class work	Enter %
Assignment due dates		August 5th, 2022	August 26th, 2022	September 16th, 2022	October 21st, 2022
Approximate exam date				November 9th, 2022	

Institution honours program details

Weight of subject in total honours assessment at host department	12.5%
Thesis/subject split at host department	37.5%/62.5%
Honours grade ranges at host department	
H1	85% - 100%
H2a	75% - 84%
H2b	65% - 74%
H3	50% - 64%

Institution masters program details

Weight of subject in total masters assessment at host department	Click here to enter text.
Thesis/subject split at host department	Click here to enter text.
Masters grade ranges at host department	
H1	Enter range %
H2a	Enter range %
H2b	Enter range %
H3	Enter range %