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Introductory TopologyI

FALL 2008

<http://math.rutgers.edu/courses/441/>

Instructor: Professor E. Speer Office: Hill Center 520
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Office Hours: Monday 1:40-3:00 PM, Hill 520
Tuesday F 3:20-4:40 PM, Hill 520
Wednesday 10:20-11:40 AM, Hill 520
Or by chance or appointment in Hill 520

Text: James R. Munkres, *Topology*, 2nd edition. Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle river, 2000.

General: Munkres is an excellent text, and we will stay fairly close to the development there. The goal is to cover the unstarred sections of Chapters 1-4 and 7, as well as Section 57 from Chapter 5. If there is extra time we will talk about the fundamental group (Chapter 9).

Homework: Homework problems will be assigned weekly, by posting on the class web page, and some of these will be collected and graded. Homework is due at the beginning of the class period for which it is assigned.

One important way to learn mathematics is to talk about it. You are strongly encouraged to discuss problems—and indeed, all the material in the course—with me or with other students. After you have finished discussing a problem, however, you must write your solution independently, not in concert with others. Your ideas and approach to the problem may come from discussion, but you should express those ideas in your own words.

If you have trouble with homework problems, or with any material in the course, I urge you to come in during my office hours, or at some other time, and discuss them.

Exams: There will be two in-class exams, on **Wednesday, October 8** and **Wednesday, November 12**. The final exam will be **Friday, December 19, 12:00-3:00 PM**; the room for the final will be announced later.

Grading: Grading will be based on a weighted average of homework and exams:

Homework	20%
Class exams 20% each	40%
Final exam	40%