

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REQUIREMENT

GRADUATE STUDIES COMMITTEE
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER
EFFECTIVE FALL 2010

This document describes the Preliminary Examination Requirement for the PhD program of the Department of Mathematics, University of Denver.

- (1) Every student admitted to the PhD program is expected to pass a written *preliminary examination in analysis* and a written *preliminary examination in algebra*.
- (2) Both preliminary examinations are designed to test whether students in the PhD program have the adequate undergraduate preparation to continue in the program with a reasonable chance of success. Accordingly:
 - Sufficient preparation for the preliminary algebra exam consists of a course equivalent to *Introduction to Abstract Algebra* and *either* a course equivalent to *Group Theory* or to *Rings and Modules*.
 - Sufficient preparation for the preliminary analysis exam consists of a course equivalent to *Introduction to Real Analysis*, and *either* a course equivalent to *Metric Spaces* or to *Topology*.
- (3) Both examinations are offered twice per year: during the week immediately preceding the first week of the Fall Quarter, and during the first week of the Winter Quarter.
- (4) Announcements for the examinations' dates will be made two months prior.
- (5) The time limit for each examination will be four hours.
- (6) A student must pass both exams by no later than the end of the winter quarter of his/her second year in the program, unless the Graduate Studies Committee grants an extension of this deadline for exceptional and documented reasons. There is no other limitation on the number of trials.
- (7) Students are not required to pass both exams at once.
- (8) A student who fails to pass either preliminary examination by the end of the winter quarter of the second year in the program will have his/her enrollment in the program terminated at the end of the second year, unless the Graduate Studies Committee grants an extension of this deadline for exceptional and documented reasons.
- (9) The Graduate Studies Committee will publicize the following data regarding both exams:
 - This Preliminary Examination Requirement.
 - The syllabi for both exams.
 - Past problems or exams, or mock versions.