

MA377-15 Rings and Modules

26/27

Department

Warwick Mathematics Institute

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Daniel Marlowe

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

Multiple

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

A ring is an important fundamental concept in algebra and includes integers, polynomials and matrices as some of the basic examples. Ring theory has applications in number theory and geometry. A module over a ring is a generalization of vector space over a field. The study of modules over a ring R provides us with an insight into the structure of R . In this module we shall develop ring and module theory leading to the fundamental theorems of Wedderburn and some of its applications.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

To realise the importance of rings and modules as central objects in algebra and to study some applications.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Rings, algebras, division rings, classification of real division algebras, modules, free modules, Zorn's Lemma, existence of basis for modules over division rings, Wedderburn's little theorem.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- The importance of a ring as a fundamental object in algebra.
- The concept of a module as a generalisation of a vector space and an Abelian group.
- Constructions such as direct sum, product and tensor product.
- Simple modules, Schur's lemma.
- Semisimple modules, artinian modules, their endomorphisms. Examples.
- Radical, simple and semisimple artinian rings. Examples.
- The Artin-Wedderburn theorem.
- The concept of central simple algebras, the theorems of Wedderburn and Frobenius.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Subject specific skills

Linear algebra is a key tool that under-pins many of the real world applications of mathematics. This module provides students with a far deeper conceptual understanding of linear algebra by replacing fields as the source of scalars with rings. It simultaneously introduces remarkable flexibility in allowing modules or vector spaces with potentially infinite dimension.

Transferable skills

Students will acquire key reasoning and problem solving skills which will empower them to address new problems with confidence.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	30 sessions of 1 hour (20%)
Tutorials	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	111 hours (74%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Review lectured material and work on set exercises.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group D1

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Coursework	15%		No
Centrally-timetabled examination (On-campus)	85%		No

- Answerbook Gold (24 page)

Assessment group R

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
In-person Examination - Resit	100%		No

- Answerbook Gold (24 page)

Feedback on assessment

Marked coursework and exam feedback.

[Past exam papers for MA377](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PE Master of Advanced Study in Mathematical Sciences

- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PD Postgraduate Taught Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1P0 Postgraduate Taught Mathematics
- TMAA-G1PC Postgraduate Taught Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
 - Year 1 of G1PC Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
 - Year 2 of G1PC Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 3 of UCSA-G4G1 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics
- UCSA-G4G3 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G4G1 Discrete Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G4G3 Discrete Mathematics
- Year 4 of UCSA-G4G4 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UCSA-G4G2 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics with Intercalated Year
- Year 4 of UECA-GL12 Undergraduate Mathematics and Economics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list D for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercalated Year
- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list F for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Option list A for:

- TMAA-G1PD Postgraduate Taught Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
 - Year 1 of G1PD Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
 - Year 2 of G1PD Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1P0 Postgraduate Taught Mathematics
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PC Postgraduate Taught Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- UMAA-G105 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics (with Intercalated Year)

- Year 3 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercalated Year
- Year 4 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercalated Year
- Year 5 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercalated Year
- Year 3 of UMAA-G100 Undergraduate Mathematics (BSc)
- UMAA-G103 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 4 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
- Year 4 of UMAA-G107 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study Abroad
- UMAA-G106 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
 - Year 3 of G106 Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
 - Year 4 of G106 Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
- Year 3 of UPXA-FG33 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (BSc MMathPhys)
- Year 3 of UPXA-GF13 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (BSc)
- UPXA-FG31 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (MMathPhys)
 - Year 3 of GF13 Mathematics and Physics
 - Year 3 of FG31 Mathematics and Physics (MMathPhys)
- Year 4 of UPXA-GF14 Undergraduate Mathematics and Physics (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of USTA-G1G3 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat)
- Year 4 of UMAA-G101 Undergraduate Mathematics with Intercalated Year

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PE Master of Advanced Study in Mathematical Sciences
- Year 3 of USTA-GG14 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc)
- Year 4 of USTA-GG17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of USTA-G1G3 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat)

This module is Option list E for:

- USTA-G301 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics (with Intercalated
 - Year 4 of G30H Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics (Statistics with Mathematics Stream)
 - Year 5 of G30H Master of Maths, Op.Res, Stats & Economics (Statistics with Mathematics Stream)