Instructor:  Professor Ruth Charney  
Office:  304 Goldsmith  
Office hours:  TBA  
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Prerequisites:  Familiarity with techniques of proof (Math 23b or equivalent).

Learning Goals:  This course is an introduction to basic concepts in topology.  The overall goal of the course is to give students a broad view of the universe of topological spaces and their diverse properties, and to familiarize students with the techniques of proof used in this field.

The subject is by nature abstract, but we will see many examples, from the familiar to the exotic.  The textbook was chosen in part for its emphasis on examples and applications.  As we will only be able to cover a limited number of these during class, I strongly recommend reading the text.  There will also be weekly homework.  We will cover Chapters 1-7, plus assorted applications as time allows.

Grading:  Grades will be based on the following.

   Homework 50%  
   Midterm 15%  In class, dates TBA  
   Final Exam 35%  TBA  

Success in this 4 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend a minimum of 9 hours of study time per week in preparation for class (readings, homework, preparation for exams, etc.).

Homework policy:  You may discuss homework problems with other students in the class.  However, I highly recommend that you spend time thinking about the problems on your own before discussing them with others.  Struggling with a problem is not a waste of time; it is the best way to improve your understanding of the material!  Most important, once you have a solution, write it down in your own words.  You may not copy the written work of another student or from any other source such as the internet, nor should you allow another student to copy your written work.  What you submit should be written in your own words and reflect your own understanding of the ideas.

Accommodations:  If you are a student with a documented disability and wish to have a reasonable accommodation made for you in this class, please submit the appropriate paperwork to me as soon as possible.  Accommodations cannot be granted retroactively.