MATH 531, Winter 2004                          Instructor: Emina Alibegovic
MTWF 1:00 - 2:00 pm                                         Office: EH1825
EH 4096                                                  Phone: 647-5518
**Office Hours: MW 11:10 -12:10 am or by appointment e-mail: eminaa@umich.edu course**

**webpage:** http://www.math.lsa.umich.edu/~eminaa/teaching/531.html

**Texts**:

There is not one single textbook that we will follow, but I will use the following books for this class:
D. L. Johnson: Symmetries
M. A. Armstrong: Groups and Symmetry
R. Lyndon: Groups and Geometry
There are many books covering the material we intend to talk about. If the notes aren't sufficient for you, use your research capabilities. The library is full of good material.

**Our goals**

The beginning of the semester will be devoted to basics of group theory. Shortly thereafter we will study groups of isometries of the Euclidean plane, frieze groups and plane crystallographic groups. Discussion of triangle groups will lead us into a study of groups of hyperbolic isometries. Time permitting we will talk about group actions on trees.

**Grading Policy**

The grades will be based on several homework assignments and the final exam. Homework assignments will generally be due every other Friday, and during that class period you will present to the class your solutions (they will also be graded and given back to you usually on the following Monday). You are allowed to discuss the assignment with each other and with me. The homework assignments can be found on the course webpage. The final exam will be a take home exam (unless we agree on a different arrangement) and this one I ask you to do on your own.

**Few other things**

- The office hours I listed are just a suggestion. If you have some other time that you prefer, let me know. Even if we don't change the times, just let me know and I will meet with you outside office hours.

- Students may drop the class without penalty or permission through the 26th of January. After that date they can withdraw only by obtaining permission from the Academic Unit and will have W on their transcript.

- The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, cognitive, systemic, learning or psychiatric disabilities. Please, contact me at the beginning of the semester to discuss any such accommodations for this course.