



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY  
REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR  
THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER  
SCHOOL OF PURE APPLIED AND HEALTH SCIENCES  
THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
MATHEMATICS

**MAT 3227-1:RINGS AND MODULES**

**Instructions to candidates:**

*Answer Question 1. And any other TWO.*

*All Symbols have their usual meaning*

DATE:

TIME:

**Question 1(20 Marks)**

- (a) Define a ring (3 Marks)
- (b) Give an example of a non-commutative ring (1 Mark)
- (c) Let  $R$  be the ring of  $2 \times 2$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}$ . Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 17 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  Determine a non-zero element  $B$  in  $R$  such that  $AB = 0$ , the zero matrix. Show that there are infinitely many elements  $X$  in  $R$  such that  $AX = 0$  (3 Marks)
- (d) i Give the definition of a two sided ideal of a ring  $R$  (2 Marks)  
ii Prove that  $3\mathbb{Z}$  (all multiples of 3) is an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}$  (2 Marks)  
iii Exhibit four more ideals of  $\mathbb{Z}$  (2 Marks)
- (e) Let  $R$  be a ring. Explain the meaning of the statement  $M$  is a left  $R$ -module (2 Marks)
- (f) Give an example of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module (1 Mark)
- (g) Give the definition of a Euclidean ring (2 Marks)
- (h) Give two examples of a Euclidean ring (2 Marks)

**Question 2 (15 Marks)**

- (a) Prove that every ideal of a Euclidean ring is generated by one element (5 Marks)
- (b) Determine the generator(s) of the following  
i the ideal  $15\mathbb{Z} + 27\mathbb{Z}$  of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  (2 Marks)  
ii the ideal  $15\mathbb{Z} \cap 27\mathbb{Z}$  of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}$  (2 Marks)  
iii the ideal  $3\mathbb{Z} + 4\mathbb{Z}$  (2 Marks)
- (c) Draw a lattice diagram showing the relationship between the ideals  $6\mathbb{Z}, 17\mathbb{Z}, 18\mathbb{Z}, 4\mathbb{Z}, 8\mathbb{Z}$  (and  $\mathbb{Z}$ ) (6 Marks)

**Question 3 ( 15 Marks)**

Let  $M$  be the Abelian additive group of  $3 \times 2$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}$

- (a) Write down three distinct elements of  $M$  (1 Mark)
- (b) Show that  $M$  is an  $R$ -module where  $R$  is the ring of  $2 \times 2$  matrices over  $\mathbb{Z}$  (3 Marks)
- (c) State whether  $M$  is a left or a right  $R$ -module (1 Mark)
- (d) List 5 different non-zero  $R$ -submodules of  $M$  (5 Marks)
- (e) Show that there are infinitely many  $R$ -submodules of  $M$  (3 Marks)
- (f) Determine three submodules  $M_1, M_2, M_3$  such that (2 Marks)

$$0 \neq M_1 \subsetneq M_2 \subsetneq M_3 \subsetneq M$$

**Question 4 (15 Marks)**

- (a) Give two examples of a commutative integral domain with identity (which is not a field). (2 Marks)
- (b) Give an example of a maximal ideal in each of the integral domains in (a) (2 Marks)
- (c) Prove that if  $I$  is a maximal ideal in a commutative integral domain with identity  $R$  then  $\frac{R}{I}$  is a field (5 Marks)
- (d) Exhibit a case where
  - (i)  $\frac{R}{I}$  is an infinite countable field (2 Marks)
  - (ii)  $\frac{R}{I}$  is an infinite uncountable field (2 Marks)
  - (iii)  $\frac{R}{I}$  has exactly 4 elements (2 Marks)