PMATH 445/745 — Complex representations of finite groups

Winter 2026

Instructor:	Alex Cowan
Contact:	alex.cowan@uwaterloo.ca — Please include "445" or "745" in the subject line
Location:	MWF 11:30–12:20 in RCH 308
Office hours:	Time TBA in MC 5311, and by appointment
Website:	https://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/~a2cowan/reptheory2026w/
TA:	Jiahui Huang (j346huan@uwaterloo.ca)

Resources

Accessibility services: https://uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/
Health services: https://uwaterloo.ca/students/health-and-well-being

Textbook

The course will follow the first half of Serre's *Linear representations of finite groups*. This textbook is not mandatory.

Grading

Your final grade will be calculated using the option most beneficial for you among the following:

Assignments:	20%
Midterm:	25% or 7%
Final:	The rest (55% or 73%)

Assignments will be given roughly every week, and the worst grade will be ignored. Collaboration is strongly encouraged, but anything you submit has to be something you wrote yourself and in your own words. Late assignments won't be accepted.

Exams

The midterm will be on February 25th, from 6pm to 8:30pm.
The date, time, and location for the final is TBA by the university.

Academic Dishonesty

If you're struggling with the material or have a problem about an upcoming exam, please discuss it with me instead of resorting to cheating.