Math 311
Portfolio Proofs - Version 3

The purpose of this document is to provide a list of proofs that are eligible to be added to your portfolio of proofs for the course. Each of you is expected to complete 50 points worth of portfolio proofs by the end of the course. When you submit a portfolio proof, I will grade it. If your proof is well written and essentially correct, I will award you points for the proof toward your portfolio total, and you will be able to add it to your portfolio. If the proof is incorrect or unclear, you will be expected to rewrite it and resubmit it for grading.

1. Use a Direct Proof to show the following: Let a , b, and c be integers. If $a|b$ and $a|c$, then $a|(b-c)$.

2. Use Proof by Contraposition to prove the following: Let a , b, and c be integers. If a does not divide bc, then a does not divide c.

3. Use Proof by Contradiction to prove the following: Let m, n be integers. If $m+n$ is even, then m and n have the same parity (that is, either they are both even or that are both odd).

4. How many numbers must be selected from the set $\{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15\}$ to guarantee that at least one pair of the selected numbers add up to 16? Fully justify your answer.

5. Use mathematical induction to prove the following: For all $n \geq 0$, $n^3 - 7n + 3$ is divisible by 3.

6. Prove the following using two clear containment arguments: $A \cap (B - C) = (A \cap B) - C$

7. Let $f(x) = mx + b$ be an arbitrary linear function.

   (a) Prove that $f(x)$ is one-to-one.
   (b) Prove that $f(x)$ is onto.
   (c) Find a formula for $f^{-1}(x)$.

8. Let (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) be two distinct points in $\mathbb{R}^2$. To simplify matters, you may assume that $x_1 \neq x_2$. Prove that there is a unique line containing both points.