When writing a proof, be sure to cite all of the properties, theorems, corollaries, and definitions you use. Be sure to write all of your answers in complete sentences (even the non-proof questions).

- 1. Answer the following (non-proof) questions:
  - a. Determine whether the given ring is a field

i. 
$$\mathbb{Z}_3[x]/(x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 1)$$

ii. 
$$\mathbb{Z}_5[x]/(2x^3 - 4x^2 + 2x + 1)$$

iii. 
$$\mathbb{Z}_2[x]/\langle x^4 + x^2 + 1 \rangle$$

b. List the distinct principal ideals of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}$ .

c. Explain why  $\langle 4,6 \rangle = \langle 2 \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

2. Let I and J be ideals in R. Prove that the set  $I+J=\{a+b\mid a\in I,b\in J\}$  is an ideal in R that contains both I and J.

3. If gcd(m, n) = 1 in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , prove that  $\langle m \rangle \cap \langle n \rangle$  is the ideal  $\langle mn \rangle$ .

4. Let I and K be ideals in a ring R, with  $K \subseteq I$ . Prove that  $I/K = \{a + K \mid a \in I\}$  is an ideal of the quotient ring R/K.

- 5. Suppose that I and J are ideals of a ring R, and let  $f: R \to R/I \times R/J$  be the function defined by f(a) = (a + I, a + J).
  - a. Prove that f is a homomorphism of rings.

- b. Is f surjective?
- c. What is the kernel of f?