1. Write down a multiplication table for the equivalence classes of the integers modulo 3.

- 2 0 2 1
- 2. By passing to equivalence classes modulo a judicious choice of n, solve the following problems.
  - (a) Show that  $x^5 + 7x^2 + 4x + 2 = 0$  has no integer solutions.

Proof: Assume by way of contradiction that a solution exists Passing to equivalence classes with n = 3 we get:

$$x^{5} + 7x^{2} + 4x + 2 = 0$$
$$[x]^{5} + [7][x]^{2} + [4][x] + [2] = [0]$$
$$[x]^{5} + [x]^{2} + [2] = [0]$$

Now then there are only three possible equivalence classes with n = 3 so we test them all:

 $\begin{array}{l} [x] = 0 \colon [0]^5 + [0]^2 + [2] = [2] \neq [0] \\ [x] = 1 \colon [1]^5 + [1]^2 + [2] = [1] \neq [0] \\ [x] = 2 \colon [2]^5 + [2]^2 + [2] = [2] \neq [0] \end{array}$ 

We therefore have a contradiction and no integer solutions exist.

(b) Show that  $46^3 + 23^5 \neq 6533678$ .

Proof: Assume they're equal and pass to equivalence classes modulo n = 2 to get  $[0]^3 + [1]^5 = [0]$  which is false. Therefore they're not equal.

QED

QED

(c) Show that 15x - 12y = 100 has no integer solutions.

Proof: Assume by way of contradiction that a solution exists. Passing to equivalence classes modulo n = 3 yields [15][x] - [12][y] = [100] or [0] = [1], a contradiction. Therefore no integer solutions exists.

QED

(d) Show that if  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  then  $a^2 \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$  and  $a^2 \not\equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

Solution: This was put on HW8 so I won't provide a solution here. A hint though is to proceed by contradiction and rewrite the equivalences as statements about equivalence classes with the screamingly obvious choice of n.