

POLICIES
MATH 314/814 - MATRIX THEORY
SECTION 002 - FALL 2007

INSTRUCTOR: Frank Moore

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FINAL EXAM: Friday, December 21, 7:30am-9:30am

TEXTBOOK: *Linear Algebra: A Modern Introduction, Second Edition*, David Poole.

OFFICE HOURS: MW 9:30-11:00 (subject to change) or by discovery

INTRODUCTION: At its simplest level, linear algebra is just the study of systems of linear equations—that is, systems like

$$3x - 7y = 2$$

$$4x + 2y = 1$$

which ought to be familiar to you from high school. Although this particular system is easy to understand and to solve, in order to contend with very large systems of equations involving many variables and in order to better understand the nature of such systems, a framework is needed. Such a framework is precisely what matrix theory and linear algebra are all about.

GRADING POLICY: Your grade will be based on 4 components: quizzes, mid-term exams, the project, and the final exam. In addition, you are expected to do homework.

1. *Homework*: Homework will be assigned each day and will usually be exactly what is on the syllabus, but sometimes there may be a few changes to that. You are expected to do the homework problems regularly. Each class will begin with questions from the homework assignment and students may be asked to present some answers on the board.
2. *Quizzes*: Quizzes will be given each Friday at the end of class. The quiz will be based closely on the homework for each week and should take about 10-15 minutes. There will be no quizzes on the weeks when exams are scheduled. The two lowest of these quiz grades will be dropped; *there are no makeups on quizzes*.
3. *Tests*: There will be two examinations during the semester, in a format to be determined as the course unfolds. The exams will take place during the week of October 8 and November 19. A makeup test will only be given for University-sanctioned reasons, and will require appropriate documentation.
4. *Final Exam*: The final will be comprehensive, although there will be a slightly higher emphasis on the material since the second test.

5. *Project*: The project will entail the analysis of a given multi-step problem, formally presented, using Maple. It will probably require a few meetings for your group to find a solution to the problem and to present that solution clearly and coherently. Everyone in the group should be involved in preparing the project. Your group should write up a short essay explaining the problem and the mathematics you used to solve the problem and then discussing the meaning of your solution. More information will be provided when the project is assigned in the second half of the semester.

6. *Breakdown of the grading*:

Two examinations	40%
Weekly quizzes	20%
Class project	15%
Final examination	25%

TECHNOLOGY: The use of calculators will be permitted during exams, but not quizzes. No other electronic devices may be used during exams (cell phones, iPods, etc.). Throughout the semester, please try to turn cell phones off during lectures. You will be provided with a computer account in the Mathlab (Avery Hall 18) where you will find computers with these programs. You can activate your computer account at <http://activedir.unl.edu>. The Mathlab will have orientation sessions at the beginning of the semester. Information relating to the Mathlab, including hours and the times for orientation sessions, can be found at <http://www.math.unl.edu/pi/studentResources/labs>.

DEPARTMENT GRADING APPEALS POLICY: The Department of Mathematics does not tolerate discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. If you believe you have been subject to such discrimination or harassment, in this or any other math course, please contact the department. If, for this or any other reason, you believe your grade was assigned incorrectly or capriciously, then appeals may be made to (in order) the instructor, the department chair, the department grading appeals committee, the college grading appeals committee, and the university grading appeals committee.

NB: These policies are subject to change, but changes will be announced in class. Students are expected to keep up with these changes by coming to class.