INFORMATION AND POLICY
Math 251 – Linear Algebra – Fall 2000

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Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday 1:30-2:30 pm in my office or by appointment.


Prerequisites: Calculus I (Math 135) or Basic Calculus (Math119).

Grading Policy: There will be one final exam (200 points), two midterm exams (100 points each) and 6 quizzes (20 points each). Your highest 5 grades from the 6 quizzes will count for the total grade. The formula of the total point is

\[ 20 \text{ (attendance)} + 100 \text{ (5 Quizzes)} + 200 \text{ (2 Midterms)} + 200 \text{ (Final)} = \text{Total (520 points)} \]

The course grade will be given on a curve based on the total point.

Exams: The exams (except the final) will be given in this classroom.
- First Exam: Tuesday, October 10
- Second Exam: Tuesday, November 21
- Final Exam:

Make-up exams will be allowed only in extreme situations (death in the family, serious illness with a note from the doctor), and I must be notified before the scheduled exam dates. Thus the fact that you have bought a ticket home before the exam is not an excuse to take the exam earlier or later. A time conflict with another exam is not the reason for a make-up exam either. The make-up exams will be more difficult than the regular exams. There is no make-up quizzes.

Help/Review Sessions: Will be organized before the exams and the final as needed.

Homework: The homework will be assigned each week. Even though the homework problems will not be collected, they should be studied carefully. The exams and quizzes will be closely related to the homework.

Classes: It is the students’ responsibility to be in the class to get the homework assignments, the quiz schedules and to see what is going on. Attendance check will be given from time to time, and absence will reduce your course grade. If you have any problem about this course, please discuss it with me as early as possible. Don’t wait until the end of the semester when getting an unwanted grade and paying the tuition is usually the only solution.

Course Outline(tentative):
- Chapters, Sections  Topics
- Chapter 1, §1.1-8  Linear Equations
- Chapter 2, §2.1-3.9  Matrix Algebra
- Chapter 3, §3.1-2  Determinants
- Chapter 5, §5.1-3  Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors
- Chapter 6, §6.1-2  Orthogonality and Least-squares