INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS
MA 322-003, 004 Matrix Algebra
SPRING, 2011

INSTRUCTOR: Brauch Fugate
OFFICE: 737 Patterson Office Tower
PHONE: 257-4781
OFFICE HOURS: 3:00-4:00 MW, 3:00-3:30 F (and at other times times by appointment)
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TEXT: Linear Algebra and Its Applications, 3rd Edition Update, David C. Lay

CLASS PARTICIPATION: I expect each student to participate fully in the course. This means attending class, doing the homework, asking questions.

HOMEWORK: Homework problems are the heart of the course. Problems will be assigned each day. See the "Homework" handout for format, etc.

EXAMINATIONS: There will be 3 mid-term examinations, and a Final examination. All mid-term examinations will be at night, and announced at least one week in advance. While the main emphasis on each mid-term examination will be on the material covered since the last examination, all examinations will be comprehensive; that is, over all the material covered from the beginning of the course.

GRADES: Each mid-term examination is worth 100 points, the Final examination is worth 200 points, all homework is worth 100 points. Thus, there will be a total of 600 points. Your grade will be determined by your point total and my subjective evaluation of how well you have mastered the course. Part of my evaluation will be based on class participation.

LANGUAGE: The ability to express ideas well, both in speech and in writing, is one of the main goals of education. I expect each student's work to be clear, well organized, and grammatically correct.

IMPORTANT DATES:
Monday Jan. 17 M.L. King birthday, no classes
Wednesday Feb 2 Last day to drop without a grade
Mon-Sat Mar. 14-19 Spring Break, no classes
Friday April 1 Last day to drop with a "W"
Friday April 29 Last class
Monday May 2 Final Exams, Sec 3 @10:30 AM; Sec 4 @ 1:00 PM
Homework

Cooperating I encourage students to work together on homework. However, there is a big difference between cooperating and copying. The rule is: Anyone can show you anything, including the complete solution to the problem. But, when you write your solution, you must not be looking at someone else’s written work. Copying is cheating; the minimum penalty for a first offense is a grade of zero for the assignment or paper; for a second offense, it is a grade of ‘E’ or ‘XE’ for the course. If you receive assistance from any source, then you must acknowledge that source, by name, on your homework paper.

Submission Homework is due at the beginning of each class; place it on the table at the front of the room. You must be present in class to submit homework.

Format You should submit homework on standard-size (8 1/2 by 11 inches) lined paper. The paper must have unbroken edges (not torn from a binder). Use a number 2 or 2 1/2 pencil, with an eraser. Each assignment should be stapled in the top left corner. Problems should be written in the order that they were assigned. Do not fold the paper.

The top of the first page of your homework should show: Last name, Called Course Section Alpha Number Text Section and assigned problems Assignment Number Then circle the numbers of those that you have completed.

Example Assignment 2 Sec. 1.1 Ex.1a, 1b, 1d, 1e, 3ab, 4c, 7, 8, 10

The top of Mary’s homework paper shows: Jones, Mary Sec 3
Sec. 1.1 Ex.1a, 1b, 1d, 1e, 3ab, 4c, 7, 8, 10 Alpha number 16 Assignment 2
I worked with Tom Brown and Jody Smith

Mary could work 1a, 1b, 1d, 3a, 4c, 7, and 8, but not 1e, 3b, or 10. Hence, she circles problems as shown; she doesn’t circle 3a, because 3ab is all one problem, and she hasn’t done it all. In contrast, 1a, 1b, 1d and 1e are separate problems, since they are set off by commas.

Grading A paper in the proper format is worth 1 point; this serves as a check on attendance. On each homework assignment, I will choose one problem to be graded in detail; this problem is worth 3 points. Substantial attempts on all other problems together will be worth 6 points. Hence, each assignment has a maximum score of 10 points.

Mary’s Homework Score on Assignment 2:
Suppose that the graded problem was 4c, and Mary received 2 points for her solution, indicating substantial progress but some gaps or flaws. There are 8 additional problems, and Mary has made a substantial attempt at 5 of them. Since Mary’s paper is in the correct format, her score is 1+2+ (5/8)6=7.

Late Homework See “Expectations” for a list of acceptable reasons for submitting late homework. You must have my prior approval, and give the paper directly to me.
Expectations

A university class is a cooperative endeavor between student and teacher. Cooperative activities work better if each person understands the other’s expectations.

Students can expect that I will

- Be present for every class or, on rare occasions, have a substitute.
- Be well prepared.
- Make every effort to answer their questions.
- Be available outside class, at a mutually-convenient time.
- Inform them explicitly about what material will be on tests, and how they will be graded.
- Treat them with the respect and courtesy that I expect from them.

I expect that students will

- Accept primary responsibility for their learning.
- Participate in every class: be there, ask questions, answer questions. (The only acceptable reasons for missing class are those beyond the student’s control: illness, accidents, family emergency, official University activities, major religious holidays. Unacceptable reasons include: scheduling transportation which conflicts with class, studying for another class, jobs, oversleeping, unsubstantiated “personal problems”.)
- Make a serious attempt at every homework problem.
- Conduct themselves appropriately in class
  - Only one person talks at a time, whether it’s the teacher or a student.
  - Don’t sleep, talk to your classmates or read anything except the textbook.
  - Don’t use any electronic equipment except calculators.
  - Turn off cellular phones and other wireless devices.
  - Please remove your hat on entering class.

Brauch Fugate