## MA 212 Matrix Algebra & Systems of Differential Equations

Winter 2017-2018

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Office: D-231

Office hours: See below. Updates will be announced and posted on my homepage and office door.

Course Web Page: www.davegoulet.com/classes/ma212/2017\_Winter

The text for the course is Advanced Engineering Mathematics, 6th edition by Zill and Wright.

Office hours listed on this syllabus are subject to change. Once my winter schedule solidifies, I will notify you of updates to this schedule.

	M	Т	W	Th	F
4	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
8	<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>
10		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	

We'll have one non-graded homework assignment per week, seven quizzes, three tests, and a final exam. Quizzes will be comprised of problems related to the most recent homework assignment. Make sure you know how to do *all* of the homework problems before the quiz.

You will not succeed on quizzes without completing and understanding the homework. Quizzes will usually occur on Tuesday.

week	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
quiz	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$
exam			<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>			<b>√</b>	

You should review the Math Department's Academic Integrity Policy. In addition to these expectations, I have the following policies.

- Late work will not be accepted. Excused absences are exceptions to this policy. These may include days when you are sick or when you have a sanctioned school function that another faculty member notifies me of. If you think you have such an event coming up, ask me about it before that date.
- Make up quizzes and tests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Typically, consideration for a make up will require a serious illness or school-related obligation.
- If you have more than eight unexcused absences, you will receive a grade of F. Class participation grade is discussed below.
- You're allowed/encouraged to cooperate and work together on homework. But be certain you can solve every problem by yourself. If not, get help from me during office hours. Completing a problem and being prepared to take a quiz over that topic aren't necessarily equivalent.
- Bring your laptop to class every day. You may use it for some in class work. Laptops can be used for note taking or other class related work. Other laptop use, cellphone use, and use of other electronic devices will not be permitted in class.
- I'll often email you to communicate course information.
- Grading will be weighted as follows: 28% quizzes (4% for each of seven quizzes), 42% tests (14% for each of three tests), 25% final exam, and 5% class participation (broadly defined).

- Assignment of quarter grades is percentage based, not point based. For example, a test with 40 points possible carries the same weight toward your final grade as a test with 30 points possible.
- Homework will not be graded. However, if you'd like feedback on your work, you can submit a designated portion of your homework for the grader to review. The grader will assign you a score and return the work to you. But that score will not be used to compute your grade in the course.
- We'll study Chapters 8-12; we may cover other assorted topics too

## Grading

Whether the grading is done by me or by my grading assistants, we will follow roughly the same pattern for each problem that we grade.

- We will check to see that you've given the right answer, in the right form. This will count for a modest percentage of the total points.
- We will check that you have shown your work, used a valid method, and explained your ideas well using clearly written short sentences and equations. The majority of the points will be assigned based on how well we think you've explained things. Plugging into formulae without citing theorems and explaining your reasoning will result in a poor score.
- From a holistic point of view, we want to see that you understand the big ideas. We're not looking for lengthy explanations, just a few concise and insightful words and sentences to accompany your mathematical work.

## Being a good class citizen.

Don't copy other people's work. Don't cheat on tests. Any form of academic dishonesty is unfair to your classmates, to me, and to you. Instances of academic dishonesty will be dealt with on an individual basis. At the minimum, you will receive a grade of 0 on any assignment that you are suspected of cheating on and a letter will be sent to the dean of students.

To maximize learning, it's important to be self-disciplined when in class. **Don't use your laptop, cell phones, calculators, or other electronic devices in class unless I instruct you to do so.** Using these devices when not explicitly permitted may result in a failing class participation grade or other penalty.