

Matrix Algebra with Applications

Math 308 D; Autumn 2014

Lecture: MWF 10:30 - 11:20am, Thomson Hall (THO) 101

Instructor: Prof. Bianca Viray

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Course Website: http://www.math.washington.edu/~bviray/Math308_Autumn2014.html

Office Hours: Monday 1:00-1:50pm, Wednesday 4:00-4:50pm, or by appointment.

Text: *Calculus, 7th Edition, Early Transcendentals* by James Stewart. An electronic version is included with your purchase of a WebAssign access code, so a paper copy is not required. We do recommend that you read the textbook, and a paper copy will make that easier. An older edition of the paper textbook will serve just as well, and will cost significantly less. Used custom versions of this textbook (volume 1 covers math124 and math125) may be available at the UW bookstore.

Grading: Your grade will consist of:

Homework	10%
Journal entries	5%
Quizzes	5%
Lowest Midterm Exam	20%
Highest Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	35%

The class is curved to a median of 3.0

Homework: Homework assignments will be assigned and collected via **WebAssign**. Typically, homework on Monday's lecture will be due the following Thursday and homework on Wednesday's and Friday's lecture will be due on Tuesday of the following week. This schedule will change slightly for exam weeks and at the beginning of the quarter. For specific due dates, see WebAssign. The website also has a list of WebAssign tips from Dr. Ostroff.

Journal entries: There are three journal entry assignments due on October 2, November 15, and December 5 at 11pm. All assignments will be posted and collected on Catalyst; they will be graded based solely on completion.

Exams: You must have a Ti-30x IIS Calculator and you are allowed one 8.5 × 11 inch paper with handwritten notes on both sides. Other calculators, electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, laptops, etc.), notes, and books will **not** be allowed during exams or quizzes.

Exam Dates:

Exam I	Tuesday, October 27	in quiz section
Exam II	Tuesday, November 24	in quiz section
Final Exam	Saturday, December 12	1:30pm–4:20 pm, KNE 130

Make-Ups: Extensions and extra submissions on homework will not be given under any circumstances. You may miss up to 10% of the total number of homework points during the quarter without penalty to your grade.

Petitions for alternatives to the exams are usually granted only for religious reasons, reasons of health, or extraordinary circumstances of grave personal import. Plans for sporting events, travel or work on exam day, etc. do not constitute extraordinary circumstances.

To petition, you should speak to me *at least* 2 weeks before the exam (if it is for a midterm) and by the end of the sixth week for the final. In addition, for the final a written petition must

be filed. Petitions are available in the Student Services Office, C-36 Padelford and should be filed by the end of the sixth week of the quarter. Please provide appropriate written documentation to support your petition. Approval of petitions is not automatic.

Academic Honesty: Cheating will not be tolerated. Any instances will be reported to the department of Community Standards and Student Conduct and *no* credit will be given for the assignments in question.

Resources for Students with Disabilities:

The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity and reasonable accommodation in its services, programs, activities, education and employment for individuals with disabilities. To request disability accommodation contact the Disability Resources for Students at least ten days in advance at: 206-543-8924/V, 206-543-8925/TTY, 206-685-8379 (FAX), or uwdrs@uw.edu.

Expectations:

I expect that you will come to class on time and prepared to learn, that you will treat me and your classmates with respect, and that you will practice high standards of academic and professional honesty and integrity as per the student code of conduct. Conversely, you can expect that I will come to class prepared, start and end class on time, treat all of you with respect, and do my best to help you succeed in this class. More generally, I expect our behavior to be guided by the following:

Let the teacher teach and the students learn.

Tips for success

- **Practice, practice, practice:** Learning mathematics is in many ways similar to learning a foreign language or sports: the way to learn and improve is by **doing!** This means solving more problems than you are assigned, working on many different types of problems, explaining what you did to your classmates, and challenging your classmates to explain the reasoning behind every step.
- **Do the homework assignment without looking at the textbook or your notes:** You should use the homework assignments to check whether you have really digested the material presented in class. However, if you constantly reference your notes or books when solving the problem, you are really only checking if you can follow the material when it's being presented. This is different from internalizing the material.

I suggest first attempting the assignment with your book and notes *closed*. You will probably struggle at first. When you have made as much progress as you think you can, then put away the homework, reread your notes and book and/or come to office hours, and work through some other examples. Then you should go back to the assignment (again with your notes and book closed!) and try again, possibly repeating the process multiple times.

This will probably take longer, but you will have gained a much better understanding of the material, and it will be much better preparation for the exams.

- **Start your homework assignment early:** This is a consequence of the last tip, but is important so bears repeating.
- **Come to office hours:** If you are confused in class or on a problem, come to office hours and ask! Even if you aren't confused, come to office hours – we can talk about something else or you can help clarify things for another student. Nothing solidifies your understanding as well as explaining it to someone else does.