

MATH 2300: Linear Algebra II

Winter 2010

Assignment & Test Information

Assignments

The assignment are due **in class by the end of class** on the due dates listed below:

Assignment 1.....	Tues Jan 19 th
Assignment 2.....	Tues Feb 2 nd
Assignment 3.....	Thurs Feb 25 th
Assignment 4.....	Tues Mar 23 rd
Assignment 5.....	Thurs Apr 8 th

Late assignments will not be accepted and will be given a grade of zero. Each assignment must be accompanied by a signed and filled out honesty declaration. This declaration is available on the course website. **If an assignment is handed in without a signed and filled out honesty declaration, it will not be graded, and the student will receive a mark of zero.**

Assignments will be handed back during class time. If a student is absent the day they are handed back, they can be picked up during office hours. Before the assignments are handed back, complete solutions will be posted. In an effort to get marks and feedback to the students as soon as possible, and to encourage students to complete each assignment in their entirety, **only a small percentage of the questions on each assignment will be graded (1 or 2 questions in general)**. The question or questions to be graded will be determined after the assignments are handed in, but before looking at the handed in papers. The remaining questions will be unevaluated, and it will be the responsibility of the student to compare their work to the provided solutions and get assistance with learning the material as necessary. Students are encouraged to photocopy their assignments before handing them in to be able to look them over sooner.

If a student is unable to hand in an assignment for a legitimate reason, the reasons with supporting evidence must be provided, and that assignment will be wiped from their record. For that student, the other assignments will then each be proportionally increased in weight to make up for the missed assignment(s). For example, if someone missed one assignment, then each other assignment would be worth $15/4 = 3.75\%$ (rather than the usual 3%) to keep the total assignment mark at 15%.

Term Tests and Final Exam

The two term tests have been scheduled. The two term tests will be held during class time and the final exam will be scheduled and arranged by student records:

Test 1.....	Thursday February 4 th (in class time and place)
Test 2.....	Tuesday March 9 th (in class time and place)
Final Exam.....	TBA

Students are responsible to make sure they are available for each of these dates. There will be no deferrals or make up tests, and students missing a test or exam will be given a grade of zero.

If a student is unable to write a term test for a legitimate reason, the reasons with supporting evidence must be provided, and that test will be wiped from their record. For that student, the other test will be worth the full term test mark of 30%. If a student is unable to write the final exam for a legitimate reason, arrangements must be made through their faculty and/or through the department of mathematics (not through me).

Assignment & Test Content

The tentative content of each assignment and test is as follows:

Assignment 1.....	Review of first year, plus basic vector spaces (5.1)
Assignment 2.....	Vector Spaces, subspaces, Linear Combinations & Span (5.1-5.3)
Test 1.....	Vector Spaces (5.1-5.6)
Assignment 3.....	Vector Spaces and basic linear transformations (5.5-5.7, 6.1-6.3)
Assignment 4.....	Linear Transformations (6.1-6.7) and Eigenvalues/vectors (7.1-7.2)
Test 2.....	Vector Spaces (5.6-5.7), Linear Transformations (6.1-6.7)
Assignment 5.....	Inner Product Spaces (8.1-8.4)

Available Support

- **Office Hours:** My office hours are specifically designed to provide students the opportunity to get help with material they are struggling with. Being that I know what is on the final exam, I am your best resource for learning the content in this course. I also have worksheets and extra questions at my disposal that may help you with your specific troubles in understanding.
- **Alternate Textbook (Anton):** I have made this alternate textbook available on reserve in the science library. This book covers the same content but explains them in a different way, so this can be very useful if you are having trouble learning from either me, the required text, or both. Also it has more questions for you to do to aid in learning the material.
- **Tutoring:** Tutors range from as low as \$10 or \$12 / hour to as high as \$30 / hour (and possibly higher). If you feel you need some extra one-on-one help outside of class and outside of my office hours, you may consider getting a tutor. If you need help finding a tutor, contact me and I will help you.

Commonly held *unrealistic* student expectations

- The instructor should remember that you were absent and tell you what you missed.
- During class the instructor answers all of your personal questions (i.e., "Why did I get this marked wrong on my quiz?")
- The instructor will appreciate your asking, "Are we doing anything important today?"
- Telling the instructor, "I don't understand **anything** in the book", will elicit a helpful response
- The instructor will repeat a lecture for you privately
- The instructor will automatically bring you handouts for any days you missed.
- The instructor should readily accept your excuses for turning in late assignments.
- Asking for help the day of or the day before a test or an assignment is due will have lots of benefit toward the earned mark.

What you can expect from me

- You can expect me to be honest with you. The content in this course is not easy, and can take a long time to understand. I will do my best to give you feedback on assignments in a timely manner and will always have my door open to help you in understanding the material. You will not pass this course unless you can display a good grasp of the content.
- You can expect me to be willing (even excited!) to help those who seek out help. To see students who take their own education seriously is very encouraging to me. If you feel that you need to meet up with me and my office hours don't work for you, contact me and we will see what we can do.

What I expect from you

- This is a very hard course, and fast paced. What I expect from you is a consistent amount of work, producing assignments that are well written and that prove your understanding of the content. As I expressed above, I am completely available to help you learn the material, but I do expect you to fight through questions on your own regularly, not giving up, but devoting yourself to learning the material. Some concepts in this class can require a “brain shift”, a change in the way you think.
- I expect you to go over your assignments and term tests to find out what and where you went wrong so that you will do better on the next assignment/test (see Assignments section).
- I expect you to take your own learning seriously and seek help when you need it. I expect you to ask questions when you are confused.
- I expect you to keep up with the class in terms of where we are at, announcements, etc., and for this reason, I expect you to check the website regularly.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities should see me as soon as possible to get permission to write their tests with disability services, and to let me know if there is anything I can do to make their learning easier.