

MATH 221: Vectors and Matrices, Fall 2017

Section 2: TR 10:20 AM - 11:40 AM, Exley 141

Instructor: Prof. Alyson Hildum
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Office hours: Wednesday 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
and by appointment

Teaching Assistant(s).

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Office Hours: Mon, 12 – 1 PM, Exley 634	TA Session: Mon, 8 – 9 PM, Boger Hall 112

Text. *Elementary Linear Algebra: A Matrix Approach*, 2nd edition, by Spence, Insel, and Friedberg.

Prerequisites. Math 122 or AP Calculus (with a score of 4 or 5 on the BC test) is strongly recommended, but not required. Please note that students will get course credit for only one of Math 221 or Math 223 (Linear Algebra).

Syllabus. Time permitting, I plan to cover the majority of the first 5 chapters of the text and portions of chapters 6 and 7. At the end of the semester, you should have a broad understanding of the matrices and matrix algebra, solving systems of linear equations, properties of invertible matrices, determinants, eigenvalues, diagonalization of matrices, and properties of abstract vector spaces.

Classroom expectations. In order to ensure that we cover all planned material and our course runs smoothly, please abide by these expectations:

- Attend every class. If you will be absent due to illness or scheduled conflict, please notify me in advance.
- Arrive for class a few minutes early so that we may all start on time.
- ASK QUESTIONS!
- Participate in group work, when applicable.
- Please keep your cell phones on silent and put away unless I tell you otherwise.
- Food is permitted as long as it will not disrupt others.

Disability Resources. Wesleyan University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Students, however, are responsible for registering with Disabilities Services, in addition to making requests known to me in a timely manner. Note that accommodations are not provided retroactively.

If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact Dean Patey in Disability Resources, located in North College, Room 021, or call (860) 685-5581 for an appointment. See <http://www.wesleyan.edu/studentaffairs/disabilities/Student/index.html> for more information.

If you require accommodations in this class, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Office hours. You are encouraged to use my office hours whenever you have questions about the course material. Sometimes one-on-one conversations with me can save you hours of study time on your own! If you can't attend office hours, don't hesitate to email me at ahildum@wesleyan.edu to ask for an appointment for another time.

Help sessions. There will be an optional recitation session held by our course assistant, Tara, every Monday evening from 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM in Boger Hall 112.

Math Workshop. The Math Workshop is located in the basement of the Science Library in Room 88. It is open Sundays-Thursdays, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM and Mondays-Thursdays, 11:45 AM-1:15 PM. It is staffed by experienced undergraduates or math graduate students. This is a drop-in tutoring service, FREELY available to all members of the Wesleyan community. Staff members provide a friendly, relaxed atmosphere while answering questions about mathematics. The workshop is a good place to go when you get stuck on your math homework. More information can be found here:

http://www.wesleyan.edu/mathcs/math/math_workshop.html

Homework Assignments. We will have weekly assignments mainly consisting of problems from the textbook. Occasionally I may supplement the textbook problems with my own. **Assignments will be due at the start of class each Thursday.**

I encourage you to discuss homework problems with your classmates, but **you must write up your own solutions.** If you do choose to work together, write your collaborators' names at the top of your paper. **You may not use any solution manuals.** Assignments must be written clearly and will not be graded if illegible.

Quizzes. We will have short 10-minute quizzes held at the end of class on Thursdays (unless there is an exam that week). All quiz questions will be based on homework problems and examples we work through in class. There are no makeups on quizzes, but the lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped.

Exams. There will be two midterm exams and a cumulative final exam.

- Midterm 1: Tuesday, October 10
- Midterm 2: Tuesday, November 14
- Final Exam: Tuesday, December 12**

The midterm exams will be held during class time, in our regular room. The final exam time, as scheduled by the registrar, is Tuesday, December 12, from 7:00PM - 10:00 PM. PLEASE NOTE that this date and time is *tentative*, to be finalized after Fall Break.

If you have an academic or athletic conflict with a midterm exam (such as a class, lab, another exam, or a Wesleyan athletic competition), inform me **at least one week before the exam.**

Review sessions will be held before each midterm and the final exam. The times and locations will be determined as we near each particular test.

Moodle. Copies of the textbook are available on reserve at the Science Library in Exley. All other course materials for Math 221 will be available online on Moodle. This includes any course announcements, reference materials, homework assignments, and midterm exam solutions.

Calculators are **not** allowed during the midterms or the final exam.

Grades. Your grade in the course will be based on the following:

- (1) Homework Assignments (15% of your grade).
All homework assignments are weighted equally and averaged.
- (2) Quizzes (10% of your grade).
- (3) Participation (5% of your grade).
- (4) Two midterm exams (each 20% of your grade).
- (5) Final exam (30% of your grade).

Academic Integrity.

You are expected to follow the University's policy on academic integrity. Any violation of the Student Honor Code will be referred to the Honor Board, without exception. The Honor Code can be found in the Student Handbook. Before you hand in an assignment or a test, pledge the following:

In accordance with the Honor Code, I affirm that this work has been completed without improper assistance. All content taken from other sources has been properly acknowledged.