Syllabus for Math 303, Calculus IV with Applications

Spring 2008

Lecturer

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Course Text

Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems: Computing and Modelling (Fourth Edition) by Edwards and Penney

Prerequisites

Official prerequisites are a C or higher in one of the following: MAT 127, MAT 132, MAT 142, or AMS 161, or else a level 9 or higher on the mathematics placement exam. Unofficially, you need a firm knowledge of derivatives, integrals, and basic algebra.

Exams

Any necessary special formulas will be provided on the exam, and the problems will be designed so that calculators won't be necessary. Thus all you'll need is your brain and a pencil. No cheatsheets or calculators will be allowed.

Midterm 1: March 4, In-Class (20% of grade)
Midterm 2: April 15, In-Class (20% of grade)
Final: Thursday May 15 (Room TBA) (40% of grade)

Homework (20% of grade)

One problem set will be due each week, at the beginning of recitation. The problem sets consist of roughly 10-20 problems of varying difficulty. Exam questions will be modelled on homework questions, so doing and understanding the homework is the best way to prepare for the tests.

This is a 4 credit course, and as a fair warning, you will have to work hard to be successful. If you fall seriously behind on the homework, you will not be able to keep up in class and will not be prepared for the exams. You are encouraged to work in groups, but you must write up your own solutions.

You must always show your work. No credit will be given for correct answers without correct work, on either exams or homeworks. No exceptions.

Makeup policy

All of your responsibilities for this class have been announced well ahead of time, namely in the first week of classes. Thus almost no requests for makeup homeworks or exams will be granted. The only exceptions, assuming evidence is provided, will be for serious illness, family emergency, or an unforeseeable catastrophe (flood, car wreck, etc).

Grading policy

The grading will be curved. This means your letter grade will be influenced by your performance relative to the rest of the class. An approximate curve will be made after each exam. The final curve, by which your course grade will be determined, will be set using the same process used for the individual exams, so the individual exam curves should be a good measure of how well you are doing.