Mathematics 323-502 – Spring 2012 – Course Information

Instructor: Catherine Yan
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Office hours: Friday 10-11am.
Course Web page: http://www.math.tamu.edu/~cyan/Teaching/math323.html
Prerequisites: Math 152
Class time & Location:
   Section 502: MWF 11:30 p.m.–12:20 p.m., CE 222.

Syllabus:
Math 323 is a course on Linear algebra. As described in the Course Catalog, we will cover Linear equations and matrices; real vector spaces, linear transformations, change of bases, determinants, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, diagonalization, and orthogonality. It includes more theory than Math 304, and is designed for math majors. In this course we will cover the first six chapters of the textbook.

Homework:
Every week I will post a list of suggested practice problems and the answer keys. These problems are not to be collected or graded. Please be aware that practice is essential to understanding the material and to doing well on the tests so please take the time to read the appropriate sections or handouts and to do all of the problems each week.

Quizzes and attendance:
During the semester there will be many short quizzes on the material we have been covering in class. Each quiz is 10 points, and the best ten quizzes will be counted toward your Quiz Grade.

The quizzes also serve as the sign-in sheet for your attendance. If you miss five or more quizzes, your attendance grade will be 0. Otherwise, your attendance grade is 50.

Tests:
There will be three tests during the semester. The tentatively schedule is:


3. Third test: May 7, Monday, 10:30–11:30. CE 222.

I reserve the right to change the dates or the particular selection of topics from the syllabus based on the needs of the class. I will give you at least a week’s notice before each test.

If you have three or more exams on the day of the last exam, you must let me know at least two weeks in advance so suitable rescheduling arrangements may be made.
Getting help:
You are encouraged to ask questions both in class and outside of it, I am available to answer questions in office hours and by appointment. You may also contact me via e-mail with your questions and I will respond as soon as possible.

Grades:
Your grade will be determined by your performance on the quizzes and tests as follows:

- Quizzes 100 points
- First test 100 points
- Second test 100 points
- Third test 100 points
- Attendance 50 points

There is a total of 450 points. The cutoffs for letter grades will be used are:

A 400 pts, B 360 pts, C 310 pts, D 270 pts.

Any request for re-grading of a test/quiz must be done within one week of the day on which it was returned to you. You can not make any change on the problems that need to be re-graded.

Any inquire of not-returned test/quiz must be done within one week of the day on which the test/quiz is handed back to the class.

Policy for Absences:
Attendance on a regular basis is expected. For absence related to injury or illness, students who are absent from class three or more days should provide instructors with confirmation from a medical provider for an excused absence.

From time to time, I will have a student sign-up during the class.

Make-Up Policy:
Make-ups for missed tests or quizzes will only be given if you have a university approved excuse in writing and if you notify me by the end of the next working day as per university rules. Whenever possible you should inform me before a test or quiz is missed. The make-up test should be done within one week of the date that you are back to school.

Scholastic Dishonesty:
Cheating of any form is not acceptable and it will be dealt with harshly. In particular, copying work done by others, either in-class or out of class, is an act of scholastic dishonesty and it will be prosecuted to the full extent allowed by university policy. Collaboration on assignments is permitted for this course, however each student must write up their own solutions. For more information on university policies regarding scholastic dishonesty, see the University Student Rules.

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