

MATH 304, Section 504

Linear Algebra

Fall 2008

Instructor: Yaroslav Vorobets

Time: MWF 10:20–11:10 a.m.

Location: *Milner 216* (moved from BLOC 155!)

Web page: <http://www.math.tamu.edu/~yvorobet/MATH304-504/>

Office: Milner 004 (phone: 845–0849, e-mail: yvorobet@math.tamu.edu)

Office hours: Monday and Wednesday 1:00–2:30 p.m., and by appointment

Text: Steven J. Leon, *Linear Algebra with Applications*, 7th ed., Pearson Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ, 2006 (<http://www.prenhall.com/leon>).

Prerequisite: Math 152 (in particular, being familiar with analytic geometry and vectors).

Course content: This is an introductory course in linear algebra covering the abstract concepts of vector space and linear transformation as well as some models and applications of these concepts to problems in the real world. Topics to be covered include: systems of linear equations, matrices, determinants, vector spaces, linear transformations, orthogonality, eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

Grading system: There will be 2 in-class tests and the final comprehensive exam. The first test and the final exam are worth 100 points (or 25% of the final grade) each, and the second test is worth 80 points (or 20% of the final grade). Extra credit can be earned by solving bonus problems. Also, there will be homework assignments which will account for another 120 points (or 30% of the final grade). The final grades will be assigned according to the 90–80–70–60% scale, that is, A for 360+ pts, B for 320–359 pts, C for 280–319 pts, D for 240–279 pts, and F for less than 240 pts.

The *tentative* dates for the 2 tests are October 13 and November 12. The final exam is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 8:00–10:00 a.m.

I will assign and collect homework about once per week. Late homework will be accepted only for legitimate reasons and may be penalized if circumstances warrant.

Make-ups: Make-ups for missed tests will only be allowed for a university approved excuse in writing. Wherever possible, inform the instructor before a test is missed. Consistent with University Student Rules, students are required to notify the instructor by the end of the next working day after missing a test. Otherwise, they forfeit their rights to a make-up.

Academic integrity: Although students are encouraged to discuss homework problems, each student is expected to write his/her own solutions. Copying another student's work is dishonest and academically worthless.

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