Math 2753-201: Linear Algebra
Spring 2022

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Cobb
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Office hours: Monday: 12:00—12:50 PM
                Tuesday: 10:00—10:50 AM
                Thursday: 10:00—10:50 AM, 2:00—2:50 PM
                Friday: 10:00—10:50 AM
                Other times: email to set up an appointment

Schedule

Lecture: TR 11:00—12:20 AM, Bolin 109
Unit Exams: February 10, March 24, and April 26 during class time
Final Exam: Tuesday, May 3, 1:00—3:00 PM

Catalog information

Description: An applied approach to systems of linear equations and matrices, linear transformations and matrices, determinants, eigenvalues and eigenvectors. Use of technology such as MATLAB and calculators with matrix capabilities is integrated into the course.
Prerequisites: Math 1634

Course Materials
Textbook

Elementary Linear Algebra, eighth edition. Ron Larson.

Suggested problems will be regularly assigned from the textbook. While these problems will not be included in your grade, they will be invaluable as you prepare for tests and quizzes.

Computers

This course includes use of MATLAB. This software is available in computer labs in Bolin Hall, including Bolin 109. You can also download the free application Octave from https://www.gnu.org/software/octave/download.html for use on your own computer; Octave will function in essentially the same way as MATLAB.

Some quizzes and exams will allow the use of MATLAB on the classroom computers. No use of scientific or graphing calculators is allowed.

COVID-19 Safety: University Policies

Vaccines

Although COVID-19 vaccinations are not mandated, **MSU Texas is strongly recommending that all students be vaccinated for COVID-19.**

Masks

Masks will not be required for activities on campus. The wearing of masks while in public indoor settings and frequently washing your hands has proven to be effective at preventing the spread of COVID-19. Accordingly, we strongly recommend wearing masks when around others in indoor settings.

Please wear a face covering in this class, regardless of your vaccination status. Wearing a mask protects those around you, and establishing a culture or mask-wearing will keep the case prevalence under control, preventing future outbreaks and variants. Wearing masks in class will also help others in the classroom feel safer, which makes teaching and learning much more effective. In accordance with state and university policy, this is a request and not a requirement.

Quarantine and Isolation

In the event that you are required to quarantine or self-isolate for COVID-19, please inform your instructor as soon as possible to make arrangements for virtual classes, adjusted deadlines, and/or remote study options. Students will not be penalized for class missed due to COVID-19 quarantine or isolation as long as prompt notice is received, official notice is given to the university, and all work is made up in a timely fashion.

Reporting

Any student (vaccinated or unvaccinated) who has a laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 must complete the COVID-19 Reporting Form for Students.
(https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?MSUTexas&layout_id=9)

Coursework and Grading
Grading
Your course grade will be computed based on the following categories:

Category	Percentage
Quizzes	20%
Unit Exams (3)	50%
Final Exam	30%

Your final letter grade will be based on the percentage obtained:

Grade	Percentage
A	At least 90%
B	80—90%
C	70—80%
D	60—70%
F	Less than 60%

Homework
Suggested homework problems from the textbook will be regularly posted on the course D2L page. It is strongly recommended that you complete the suggested problems on a regular basis.

Quizzes
Quizzes will generally take place at the beginning of class every Tuesday. This schedule may change with or without warning. You should always arrive in class familiar with the material covered in the previous class meeting.

Some quizzes will allow the use of MATLAB and others will not. Your lowest two quiz grades will be dropped to allow for unavoidable absences. No make-up quizzes will be given. Occasional in-class or homework assignments may be counted as quiz grades.

Tests
The unit exams for this class are on **February 10**, **March 24**, and **April 26**. The final exam is **Tuesday, May 3, 1:00—3:00 PM**

If you must miss an exam, please let me know at least one week ahead of the test date and arrange to take the test early. In the case of unexpected and unavoidable absences (such as hospitalization), you must let me know on the day of the test and provide documentation.

For absences related to Covid isolation or quarantine, please contact me as soon as possible so we can arrange a late exam or remote administration of the exam.

Course Policies
Attendance

You are expected to attend every class, in person, if at all possible. This includes arriving on time; staying to the end; being prepared; participating in class; and behaving respectfully. If you must miss class, please consult a classmate to find out what you missed.

You should not attend class if you are feeling sick or if you have been asked to quarantine or self-isolate because of COVID-19. At the instructor's discretion, the class may be available via Zoom. If you need to attend class by Zoom on a particular date, you must email the instructor with the request at least one hour before class is scheduled to begin. Include the date, course title (Linear Algebra), and the reason for the request. You do not need to provide details or evidence for the reason.

In the case of an official university-excused absence or Covid-related quarantine or isolation, attendance over Zoom will count as attendance in class, and any missed points will be excused. For any other absence, attending on Zoom will not count as being present in class and missed work will be counted as a zero. Exceptions will be considered at the instructor's discretion for unavoidable absences lasting for more than one week.

Students who miss more than four classes or portions of classes for reasons other than university-excused absences may be dropped from the course with a grade of F.

Classroom Behavior

Respectful behavior in the classroom is required. Any student who is disruptive will be asked to leave class. As much as possible, please avoid talking with classmates and leaving or entering the room during class. Make sure all electronic devices are silenced. Use of cell phones in class is not allowed.

Electronic Devices

Use of computers is not allowed in the classroom. This includes desktop computers, laptops, cell phones, tablets, and other similar devices. Students using such devices may be asked to leave class. If a cell phone, smart watch, or similar device is visible or audible during an exam, you may receive a zero on that exam.

Some class activities will allow the use of the computers provided in the room, but otherwise you should not be logged in.

If this policy presents a serious problem, please let me know; exceptions may be made in special circumstances.

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

This course will sometimes use D2L to distribute information. Grades will generally be posted to D2L. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program and to regularly check posted information. You can log into D2L through the MSU Homepage. Downloading the Brightspace Pulse app is also recommended. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Communicating with Me

The best way to reach me is by email (sarah.cobb@msutexas.edu). I will generally respond to email within 24 to 48 hours. I will be in my office during office hours each week and often at other times; feel free to stop by. Any communication not in writing or by email should be considered unofficial.

Office Hours

Office hours are times that I have set aside to answer questions about the course or course material. I am happy to discuss homework problems, quizzes and tests, study practices, grades, and other topics. If you wish to attend office hours in person, please wear a mask over your nose and mouth. If you prefer to attend virtually, please email to set up an appointment using Zoom. If it is impossible for you to attend scheduled office hours, email me to set up an appointment at another time.

Changes to Syllabus

Some portions of this syllabus may alter during the semester. When possible, I will announce changes in class as well as sending an email through the D2L email system. You are responsible for knowing everything I announce in class as well as everything I email to your address as listed in D2L. If you miss class, make sure you talk to someone who was there.

Student Handbook

This course will abide by all university policies as described in the student handbook.

Student Resources

For information about other services available to students, please visit the Student Resources web page at https://msutexas.edu/academics/scienceandmath/student_resources.php

Academic Misconduct

Any incident in which a student submits work for grading that does not reflect their own effort is considered academic dishonesty. This includes using sources (by paraphrase or direct quotation) without proper attribution; collaborating on work where collaboration is not authorized; use of sources on an assignment or test where those sources are not authorized; and turning in work completed by another person.

Cheating on any work in this course will result in no credit for that work. Egregious or repeated incidents will result in more serious consequences, such as a failing grade in the course or dismissal from your academic program. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported as specified in your student handbook.

In general, you may work with classmates on any out-of-class assignment unless instructed otherwise. Quizzes and tests must represent your own work.

Services for Students With Disabilities

Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please contact the Disability Support Services office.