

Syllabus - MTH 3331 - Linear Algebra

Spring 2018

Instructor: Pat Rossi
Office: 227C MSCX Hall (334)670-3588; prossi@troy.edu
Office Hours: M, W, F 10:00-10:50; 1:00-1:50
T 9:00-11:50; 1:00-1:50
Or By Appointment
Text: None
Class Time: M, W, F 9:00 - 9:50
Prerequisites: MTH 1126 or permission of the instructor

Calculation of Final Average

Test Average	75%
Final Exam	25%

Assignment of Final Grade

Final Average	Grade
90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
60-69	D
0 -59	F

NOTE: Final Grades Cannot be Given Out Over The Phone

Attendance and Homework Policy:

More than five (5) unexcused absences will result in a grade of F

Final Exam: Our final exam will be given on **Friday, May 4 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.** Students will not be allowed to take the Final Exam early. Exceptions WILL NOT be made for those who have made travel arrangements (e.g. purchased an airplane ticket) for a date on, or before the Final Exam.

Tests

There will be three hour tests during the term.

Test #1	Wednesday, February 14
Test #2	Wednesday, March 28
Test #3	Wednesday, April 25

Each test will cover material introduced in class up to and including the Monday before the test. Tests and homework assignments will be returned to the students (to keep) after they have been graded, but will remain the permanent property of the Instructor even after they are returned to the students.

Makeup Policy:

There will be no make-up tests given during the semester. Make-up tests will be given on Wednesday May 2 (Dead Day), at 10 am, **for those students who missed a test** during the term. **No student will be allowed to make up more than one missed test.** Notice that these make-up tests are only given to students who **missed a test** (for whatever reason) during the course. (This implies that you may choose to miss a test if you feel that you are not ready.) Don't do this indiscriminately - You may need to miss a test later on in the course, due to extreme illness, etc. Nevertheless, the option remains. One catch - once you enter the room to take an exam, you must take the exam. You will not be allowed to enter the room, look at the exam, and then decide whether or not you want to take the exam.

Questions on Grading:

The instructor will entertain questions regarding grading of tests and assignments in his office, during office hours only. No questions regarding grading will be addressed during class.

Incomplete Policy

A grade of "I" (incomplete) may be given in the case of illness or emergency situations occurring towards the end of the semester, which make it impossible for the student to complete all course work by the end of the semester in such a way that the student's grade accurately reflects his or her mastery of the course material up to the time of the illness or emergency. Such grades are given very sparingly, and only in a case of genuine hardship. Time limits for removing an incomplete can be found in the Undergraduate Bulletin.

Academic Honesty

Academic misconduct shall be handled according to the guidelines listed in the *Oracle*.

Course Description:

Matrix Algebra, Systems of Linear Equations, Determinants, Eigenvalues, Vector Spaces. Prerequisite: MTH 1126 or permission of instructor.

Study and Preparation:

To increase your chances for success, do the assigned homework when it's assigned and ask questions either in class or during office hours on exercises that you find difficult. To a great extent, your conscientiousness in this matter will determine your success in the course. Homework exercises and answers are posted on my website (<http://www.pat-rossi.com>). Also, practice tests are posted on my website. These practice tests, together with the homework exercises should provide sufficient preparation for the tests and the final exam. To get to my website:

1. Go to: <http://www.pat-rossi.com>
2. On the left hand side, click "Academic Links for Troy University Students"
3. Under "Course Links" click "MTH 3331"

Other Matters: Behavior such as wearing headphones in class, sleeping in class, exiting class during a lecture, talking to classmates during the lecture, reading a newspaper during class time, reading a book other than the assigned text for the course during class time, or doing work not assigned in this class during class time will not be tolerated. (If you are sick, or need to use the restroom, raise your hand and ask to be excused.)

Course Objectives:

Upon Completion of this Course the student should:

1. understand matrix notation and the different matrix forms
2. be able to interpret and perform matrix operations
3. understand determinants and their properties
4. understand vector spaces, subspaces, linear independence, basis and dimension
5. be able to solve systems of equations and solve application problems
6. understand eigenvalues, eigenvectors, eigenspaces, and their importance in solving related problems.

Course Requirements:

1. The student is expected to attend each class session and to participate in class discussion.
2. The student is expected to complete all homework assignments punctually.

Course Content:

I. The Matrix

1. Matrices
2. Dot Products
3. Special Matrices
4. Vectors
5. Orthogonality

II. Systems of Linear Equations

1. Equivalent Systems
2. Row Reduction; Rank
3. Homogeneous and Non-Homogeneous Systems
4. Linear Independence, Basis, Dimension

III. Square Matrices

1. Multiplicative Inverse
2. Determinants
3. Nonsingular Matrices
4. Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors
5. Applications Markov Chains, Population Study

IV. Vector Spaces

1. Vector Spaces and Subspaces
2. Spanning Set, Linear Independence, Basis
3. Coordinates, Dimension

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

Troy University, under the guidelines of ADA and the Rehabilitation Act, makes reasonable accommodations for documented physical and mental limitations of otherwise-qualified individuals with disabilities. To provide the best possible services to students, employees, and visitors, Troy University has designated Disability Services Coordinators and Human Resources representatives on each campus as responsible parties for coordinating accommodations for persons with disabilities. For more information about physical access to building or grounds, academic or workplace accommodations, or other ADA related services, individuals should contact a Disability Services Coordinator or Human Resources representative on their campus of attendance. Specific information regarding the ADA, including contact information for responsible parties, can be found at the following link:

<http://trojan.troy.edu/employees/humanresources/documents/ADAPolicy2003.htm>

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Troy University no longer has a cell phone policy. This means that I will not prohibit students from having a cell phone, tablet, etc. on their desk, except while tests are being given. I do not like for students to have such devices in plain sight and to be engaged in their use during my lectures - it's discourteous and it's a distraction to the person who has the device and to others around him/her. Considering how much students pay for each credit hour of instruction, being engaged in using such devices during class time also wastes money that students pay for tuition. But, since there is no longer any University policy regarding the use of such devices in the instructional environment, there is not much that I can do to prohibit their use (except during tests). While taking tests, neither calculators nor cell phones, tablets, etc. will be allowed on your desk and/or in your work environment. Particularly, the use of a communication device to violate the Troy University *Standards of Conduct* will result in appropriate disciplinary action (See the *Oracle*.)

It would be a courtesy for students who are expecting an emergency call to inform me before the start of class. Students receiving calls that they believe to be emergency calls should answer quietly without disturbing the teaching environment. If the call is an emergency, they should move unobtrusively and quietly from the instructional area.

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Letters of Recommendation: I will gladly write letters of recommendation for students who receive a "B" or higher in the course, who have reasonably good attendance, and who do not cause discipline problems; provided that the letters are for graduate/professional school and/or employment in a field related to your academic major. Letters of recommendation for employment must be for positions that will be filled in the near future. (e.g., don't ask me to write a letter of recommendation for a teaching position, when your date of graduation is over a year away.) Such letters are *confidential*. Also, if you want me to write a letter of recommendation, you must ask me *personally*. (i.e., do not put a note in my mailbox asking me for a letter of recommendation.) Oh - one more thing - the better I know you, the more I will be able to say about you in my letters of recommendation. *Therefore, it is to your advantage to come and see me, and ask for help during office hours.* This is how I get to know my students.

Important Dates (Which Are Not Listed Elsewhere in the Syllabus)

Jan 15	Holiday – MLK Day – No Class
Jan 16	Last Day to Withdraw without financial penalty
Jan 16	Last Day to Add a Course (in person or on Web Express)
Jan 16	Last Day to Drop a Course without financial penalty (on Web Express Only)
Mar 12-18	Spring Break - No Classes
Mar 20	Last Day to Make Up Incompletes from Previous Semester
Apr 6	Last Day to File Intent to Graduate for Summer Semester
May 2	Dead Day

University Firearms Policy

Regardless and in spite of recent changes in Alabama law related to the matter, it remains the policy of Troy University that no person other than authorized law enforcement officers shall be permitted to bring any firearm onto any campus, teaching, or service support property, owned or leased by the University, no matter whether they hold a permit to do so, or not. It has been determined that it is the University's prerogative to establish its policy related to this question and therefore the current University policy on firearms remains in effect.

This syllabus represents a tentative plan for the instruction in this course. The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus if, in his opinion, such action will enhance and/or optimize learning. Any changes in this syllabus will be announced in class and/or on the instructor's website. This syllabus is a best possible assessment of the course aspirations, assignments and requirements at the time it was developed for this semester.