Math 240: Linear Algebra
Spring 2017 Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hundley
OFFICE: Olin 234
OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Wed at 1:30, T, Th at 2:30.

If you cannot meet during office hours, you may drop by any time my office door is open, or we can always arrange other times to meet (email is probably fastest way to get in touch with me).

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WWW: `http://people.whitman.edu/~hundledr/courses/M240.html`

1. **Text:** Linear Algebra and its Applications, by David C. Lay, Fourth Edition.

   As time allows, we will be covering topics from Chapter 1, 2.1-2.4, 3.1-3.3, 4.1-4.7, 5.1-5.5, 6.1-6.7, and 7.1-7.2 (this is most of the book!).

2. **Technology:** You are allowed to use calculators on your homework, where appropriate. Calculators will *not* be allowed on exams, however. This is (1) to ensure that points are not based on what kind of calculator you own, and (2) because one goal of the course is that you understand basic computations in linear algebra. We will be using Matlab (or its free version, Octave)- More information on that later.

3. **Grading Criteria.**

   (a) HOMEWORK will be assigned daily, and picked up the day after.
      Solutions to your homework should:

      - be neatly written out.
      - include a statement of the problem.
      - be written in complete sentences.

      Where appropriate, you should end the problem with a statement of the solution (or, if its a straightforward computation, circle your answer). As a rule of thumb, you should be able to pick up your paper and follow your work from start to finish without having to refer to the text.

      LATE WORK: If your work is n days late, you will be assigned a penalty of $n(n+1)/2$ points.

      The overall homework grade will be 20% of the overall grade. NOTE: After the first exam, we will assess how the homework assignments have been working out, and we may go to a weekly quiz.

   (b) EXAMS. There will be three exams: **Monday, Feb. 6** and **Wed, Mar. 7** and **Wed, Apr. 19**. The material on the exam may change, but the dates for the exams will not. Each exam is worth 20% of the overall class grade.

      There will be a comprehensive final exam given at the time published by the Registrar's office. The final exam will be worth 20% of your overall grade.

If you do well on your final exam, I will replace your lowest exam score by the average between it and the final exam score.

GRADING: Grading is done on a standard scale:

$A = 92 - 100$ $A- = 90 - 91$ $B+ = 88 - 89$ $B = 82 - 87$ $B- = 80 - 81$
$C+ = 78 - 79$ $C = 72 - 78$ $C- = 70 - 71$ $D = 60 - 69$ $F = 59$ and below

4. **Collaboration:** You are encouraged to discuss homework assignments with other students and you should form study groups. However, **the solutions you turn must be your own**.

5. **Workload:** As a general rule of thumb you should expect to spend at least two hours outside of class studying for every hour in class.

6. **Assistance:** I encourage you to come see me. If you can't make it during office hours, either email me if you have short questions, or let me know when you would like to meet.

7. **Health problems.** If you're having to miss class due to health problems, you need to get in touch with me as soon as possible, either by phone or email. If you are ill on the day of an exam, we can work out other arrangements for you **only** if you receive verification from a health professional (i.e., go to the clinic and get checked out). You can then have the Dean of Student's office send a message to that effect to me- I don't need to know any details, just that you have gone through the procedures. This includes mental health problems, as well as chronic conditions.

8. **Other Absences.** If you need to miss class due to other legitimate reasons (religious holidays, sports, etc), please let me know ahead of time so that we can work around your schedule.

9. **Learning Disabilities.** If you have a learning disability, we can make the proper arrangements for you. All arrangements need to go through the Academic Resource Center *prior* to taking an exam. (This also applies generally: If you're having academic difficulties, see the people at Academic Resources!)

10. **Academic Honesty**. Academic standards will be *strictly* adhered to as outlined in your student handbook. This means that cheating will not be tolerated. Looking at another student's exam or quiz (whether or not you mean to copy answers) while taking it will be considered cheating. Students caught cheating will fail the exam or quiz, and the incident will be referred to the Dean of Students, as outlined in your student handbook.

11. As a courtesy to me and your fellow classmates, please silence your cell phone and refrain from using any kind of electronic device during class.