

# Math 244 Spring 2008

## Syllabus

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Hundley

OFFICE: Olin 234

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, 10AM; Tuesday, 3PM; Thursday, 2PM.

If you can't make these times, feel free to schedule a different time. You may also stop by anytime my office door is open, or email me.

OFFICE PHONE: 527-5151

EMAIL: [hundledr@whitman.edu](mailto:hundledr@whitman.edu)

CLASS WEBSITE: <http://www.whitman.edu/~hundledr/courses/M244.html>

### 1. COURSE INFO: Math 244

### 2. TEXT: Elementary Differential Equations (with Boundary Value Problems) 8<sup>th</sup> Edition. Boyce and DiPrima

This course will basically cover Chapters 1-3, 5-7 (not in that order).

### 3. Technological Assistance: Calculators are allowed, however calculators that can perform symbolic algebra will *not* be allowed on exams.

We will be using MAPLE periodically to help us visualize certain concepts. The relevant commands and descriptions will be provided to you.

### 4. Grading Criteria.

- Exams. There will be three exams (**February 7**, **March 7** (sorry- that's the Thursday before Spring Break), and **April 17th**), and a Final Exam. The exam dates will not change, so make your plans accordingly. The last exam will be the Final Exam, which we will take at the published time. Exams will make up 80% of the overall class grade (each is 20% of the overall grade).
- Quizzes will make up the remaining 15% of the grade. There are 10 total, and you may drop your two lowest scores- You are allowed these drops in case you need to miss class on the occasional Thursday, so don't use these drops unless you need them.
- Involvement: Attendance and participation are essential for learning. I am reserving 5% of your course grade for this portion- If you attend class on time and try your best to participate, then you will not need to worry about the 5%.
- Homework: The homework problems form the basis for the weekly quiz. It is expected that you will spend some time thinking about and completing the homework problems! Do not procrastinate- There is time during the beginning of each class meeting to discuss the previous day's homework assignment- This is an excellent time to ask questions!

Grading:

90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D, 59 and below=F

I will use the plus/minus grading only sparingly in those borderline cases.

5. Help! 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 make an appointment.
6. Academic Honesty. Academic standards will be *strictly* adhered to as outlined in the College's policies. 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. *Please don't test this policy!* Students caught cheating for the first time will fail the exam or quiz during which the cheating took place, and the Dean of Students will be notified. Continuation of this behavior will lead to an automatic failing grade for the course, and may include other administrative action.
7. If you have a learning disability, please let me know as soon as possible so that we can make alternative assessment methods. Please do not wait until the day of the exam!
8. **Please be courteous to your fellow students** and to me: Class begins exactly on the hour, and the first 5-10 minutes are the most important, so please be on time (also see the 5% of your grade in the previous section). You should not use a laptop computer during class. Please silence your cell phone.

It was once thought that if we knew all the Laws of Nature, then we could verify all past events through all time, and we could know the future. Although it turns out that this is not necessarily true, it is true that many of the Laws of Nature are differential equations, therefore one cannot truly appreciate Nature until one understands its differential equations-