

Instructor: Lilly Webster

webst390@umn.edu

<http://www.math.umn.edu/~webst390/>

Canvas Page: <https://canvas.umn.edu/courses/195168>

Course Meetings: TTh 6:00 PM - 8:05 PM Central Time

See Canvas for Zoom link

Office Hours: TTh 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM Central Time

Also by appointment

See Canvas for Zoom link

Textbook: *Differential Equations and Linear Algebra* (4th edition) by Edwards and Penny

General Notes

I would prefer that you address me as Lilly with she/her/hers pronouns. If you prefer, you may call me Ms. Webster. You should not call me Professor Webster or Dr. Webster, as I am neither.

I strongly encourage you to come to office hours if you have questions. I also strongly encourage you to ask questions during class. In my experience, students who ask questions are much more successful in my courses. I am more than happy to talk at you for several hours a week, but our time will be much more useful if you can tell me what material is confusing to you. Keep in mind that, as with many math classes, the material in this course will build on itself throughout the semester. So, the earlier we address any issues the more likely you are to have success in this course.

The best way to get in touch with me is by email. I will respond to emails sent before 8pm on a weekday within a few hours. If you send an email after that time, I may not be able to respond until the next morning.

I understand that the circumstances of this semester are extremely unusual and that things are liable to change with little notice. I will do my best to be flexible with you as much as possible, and I hope that you will extend me the same courtesy. If your situation changes in a way that will affect your participation in the course, please let me know as soon as possible.

Virtual Learning Plan

This course will be conducted using a variety of online platforms. Canvas will be used for course communication, quizzes, recording grades, and posting all course content and assignments. I recommend checking your notification settings in Canvas so that you can be promptly informed about important course information. Gradescope will be used for

submitting and returning homework and exams. Zoom will be used for course meetings. The Gradescope and Zoom links within Canvas will take you directly to the relevant pages for our course, so I recommend using Canvas to access those platforms.

This course will include video and audio recordings. These will be used for educational purposes and will only be made available to students currently enrolled in this course. If you wish to share course recordings or other course content to anyone outside the course, you must get my permission first. I will inform you in advance of any class sessions that are being recorded. If your image or voice are on any class recording, I will obtain your permission before sharing that recording outside the course.

To give us the most flexibility possible, this course will be conducted as a “flipped” classroom. For each Zoom class session, there will be a series of videos that you are to watch before we meet. These videos will go over the new material from the textbook for each class. During class sessions, I will go over additional examples and answer any questions that you may have. To allow you sufficient time to watch the lecture videos, our virtual course meetings will last approximately 50 minutes (6:00 PM - 6:50 PM).

Office Hours and Additional Help

My office hours are 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. You can find the Zoom links for office hours on the Canvas page. If you want to meet with me outside of my usual office hours, send me an email with when you are available and I will do my best to find a time when we can meet. The other evening lecturer Eric Stucky has agreed that you may also go to his office hours for help. His office hours are 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays; see the Canvas page for Zoom links.

Between class sessions, I strongly encourage you to use the Discussions feature on Canvas. There are places there to ask questions about the course, about the material we are learning, and to find other students for a study group.

You may want to consider the free by-appointment tutoring available through the SMART Learning Commons. See <https://www.lib.umn.edu/smart> for more details.

Grading

Your final grade in this course will be calculated as quizzes 5%, homework 20%, two midterms 25% each, and the final exam 25%. The course grade lines will be adjusted based on the distribution of scores across all sections of the course, but grade lines for the total score will not be stricter than the following:

A: 90 -100% B: 80 - 89% C: 65 - 79% D/F: 0-64%

I will also give grade lines for each midterm exam so you can get a sense of where you stand in the course.

If you have concerns about the grading of an assignment, it must be brought to my attention within 1 week of the assignment being returned. Send me an email or stop by my office hours and I'll be happy to look at it.

Quizzes

There will be a very short quiz at the start of each class session. The quiz will be available on Canvas from 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM on each class day and will have a 10-minute time limit. Quizzes will consist of two or three multiple choice questions on the material of the previous class and will not require significant computations. You may use your notes, the textbook, and any resources on Canvas for the quizzes.

Homework

There will be one homework assignment per week, due at the start of class on Thursdays. The assignment will be posted on Canvas at least one week prior to the due date. Homework solutions will be made available on Canvas after the assignment has been turned in. Homework should be submitted through the Gradescope portal. If you have not submitted assignments through Gradescope before, I recommend trying the practice assignment that is posted on Canvas.

You are allowed (and in fact encouraged) to work with other students on homework assignments. If you do that, please indicate on each problem who you worked with. If you use sources other than your notes, the textbook, and any resources on Canvas for your homework, you must indicate the source on each problem. You are not permitted to view, request, or look for solutions to any of the homework problems from solutions manuals, homework help websites, online forums, other students, or any other sources.

The problems that I assign for homework may not be sufficient for you to get comfortable with the material. The nearby problems in the textbook are a good opportunity to get more practice since the answers are in the back of the book. If you find you need more practice than the book provides, please let me know.

Exams

There will be two fifty-minute in-class midterm exams on October 15th and November 19th. This course has a common final exam, which will be given on December 17th from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM. The material covered on each exam will be confirmed two weeks prior to the exam and review materials will be distributed one week prior to the exam. Exams will be distributed and submitted just like homework assignments, but will only be made available during the exam window. You will be required to sign an honor statement when you submit your exam and to be present on Zoom while working on the exam. You may not ask for or receive help from notes, textbooks, online resources, or other people on exams.

If you have an excused absence that will prevent you from taking an exam, let me know as soon as possible so we can find an acceptable solution.

Other Policies

You may use a calculator at all times; there are no restrictions on the type of calculators that are permitted. All work must still be written out completely, so that it can be understood by a person without a calculator. In general, assessments will be written so that they may be completed without the use of a calculator; exceptions to this will come with advance

warning. Unless stated otherwise, you should leave answers in an exact form like $\cos(2)$, e^2 , or $\frac{3}{7}$ rather than giving decimal approximations. Whenever possible, you should simplify expressions such as $\ln e = 1$, $\sin(\frac{\pi}{4}) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$, and $\frac{20}{5} = 4$.

Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated and is grounds for receiving an F or N for the entire course. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) plagiarism, consulting unapproved resources on exams, obtaining exams without instructor permission, posting exam problems to online forums, and sharing the exam to other students.

You may drop this course without my approval and without a W on your transcript until September 21st. Between September 21st and November 16th, you may drop the course without my approval but you will get a W on your transcript. For more information, see <https://onestop.umn.edu/dates-and-deadlines/canceladd-deadlines>

The University of Minnesota is committed to providing equal access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide or arrange reasonable accommodations. Information is available on their website <https://disability.umn.edu/> or by calling 612-626-1333 or by sending an email to ds@umn.edu.

Inclusion Statement

The University of Minnesota provides equal access to and opportunity in its programs and facilities, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. All students are valued in my classroom.

If you have a disability of any kind that requires accommodation for this course, please let me know so we can develop a plan to best meet your needs. If religious observances will conflict with class meetings or assignment due dates, please also let me know.