MATH 355.002 : Linear Algebra

Summer 2018

Instructor: Miriam Kuzbary

Class Hours: MTWRF 10:30AM - 12:00PM MTWRF in Herring 224

Email: miriam.kuzbary AT rice DOT edu

Office Hours: MTWRF 3:00 - 4:00pm and by appointment in HBH 48 (in the basement).

Course Description: In this course we will explore linear algebra, which is in some sense the study of vectors and certain functions on them. This is a generalization of the algebra you know from the one-dimensional world to the many-dimensional world and is a fundamental tool in every STEM field. More than that, the subject is full of deep, theoretical results which are interesting in their own right. The goal of this class is to become fluent in computational techniques as well as to gain an understanding and appreciation for the theory holding it all together.

We will study the geometry of Euclidean space, matrices and determinants, abstract vector spaces and linear transformations, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, as well as applications of these topics.

Course Expectations: This is a difficult class normally, but taken during the summer it will likely be even more of a challenge. Please expect to spend a minimum of three hours per hour of class working outside of the classroom. Though I will have office hours every week day, feel free to send me an email at any time with questions you have and I will respond promptly and arrange to meet with you if necessary.

Course Materials: The textbook for this class will be Linear Algebra and its Applications, 5th ed. by David C. Lay, Steven R. Lay, and Judi J. McDonald.

Website: On Canvas.

Homework: There will be written homework due every other day at the beginning of class as well as online homework on WebWork due at the beginning of each class. Working together is encouraged, however, for written homework each student must write up their solutions on their own. Written homework must be legible and your responses should be both well justified and clearly indicated. As a guideline, an average student from a linear algebra class should be able to read your homework and understand (and agree with) your solution to each problem.

Exams: This class will have two midterms (on 7/12 and 7/24) outside of our normal class meeting hours (these exams must be on these days, however, we can schedule them on the first day of class depending on student availability) and one three hour final exam (8/3) from either 9am-12pm or 10:30am-1:30pm depending on the consensus of the class. More details will be announced closer to

each exam date. If you have a conflict with any of these dates, please discuss it with me well in advance and we will find a solution.

Grading: Homework will account for 20% of the final grade, the two midterms will account for 25% each, and the final exam will account for 30% of the final grade.

Tentative Course Schedule:	
Week 1:	1.1-5, 1.7-9, 2.1-3
Week 2:	4.1-4, and Midterm 1 $(7/12)$
Week 3:	4.5-7, 3.1-3, 5.1-5
Week 4:	6.1-6.7 and Midterm 2 $(7/24)$
Week 5:	7.1,2,4, and Final Exam $(8/3)$

Disability Support: Any student with a documented disability seeking academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All such discussions will remain as confidential as possible. Students with disabilities will need to also contact Disability Support Services in the Allen Center.