Course Syllabus for MATH 285 G1

Instructor: Liheng Tao (Leeds)  
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Office: 024 Illini Hall  
Office Hour: MT 2:00-2:50pm

Lecture Hour: MTWR 3:00-3:50pm, 245 Altgeld Hall

Webpage: http://www.math.uiuc.edu/~leedstao/MATH286.html

Textbook:


Course Description:

An introduction to the techniques and applications of ordinary differential equations, including Fourier series and boundary value problems, linear systems of differential equations and an introduction to the partial differential equations. We will cover all of the material form MATH 285 plus linear systems of differential equations. This course is intended for engineering majors and others who require a working knowledge of differential equations. We plan to cover Chapter 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and partially Chapter 4, 7 if time permits.

Attendance and Class Preparation:

Class attendance is expected. Though attendance will not contribute toward your final grade. You can assume that anything that is covered in class may be tested in the written exams. It is highly recommended that you read the corresponding section of the textbook before attending the class. The material that would be covered for each day can be found on the course website.

Homework, Exams, et. al.

During the semester, you will receive numerical scores for your assignments and tests. A final letter grade is determined at the end of the semester. 20% percent of the grade is based on your homework, 10% on your lowest midterm test, 20% each for the other two. Final exam will be counted 30% of your grade. I will update your numerical score after each midterm as well as class average, so that you know how you are doing.

Homework

Recommended homework problems will be given on a daily basis. But graded homework will be collected weekly. You are allowed to discuss problems with your classmates, though a well understanding of the solution is encouraged. Do not carbon-copy others' answer. No collaboration is allowed for exams.

For graded homework, write your name and section number on the top-right corner of each sheet of paper and staple on the top-left corner. The graded homework are due on the due date at the beginning of class. You will receive full credit only on homework returned on time on the due date. For any late homework, you need to notice the instructor before the planned due date with a proper documented excuse. A full score will be graded still. Late homework with no advance notification will receive a zero on that homework. Before calculating your final score,
the homework with the two lowest scores will be dropped and not counted toward your homework average score. Your homework average makes up 20% of your final grade.

**Exams**

There will be three mid-term tests given during the evening session. Exact dates will be given on my webpage. You may not use notes, books, calculators or computers during any of the tests. The test with your lowest score will count for 10% of your grade. The other two tests will be worth 20% of your final grade.

Final exam is given on **1:30-4:30 PM, Wednesday, May 13th**.

It is required by the university to take the final exam. 30% percent of your final grade is depending on your final test.

Make up tests will be given only if you present written evidence, as soon as possible, that you did (or will have to) miss an exam for a legitimate reason, e.g. illness or family emergency. A note that you have visited McKinley is not proof of a legitimate reason. Travel and leisure plans are not a legitimate reason. Make up for evening midterm tests can be granted based on your schedule conflict.

**Grades**

Letter grades (including + and -) will be assigned at the end of the semester based on your combined score in the class (from graded homework, midterms, and final). However, at any time during the semester you are welcome to ask me what grade your performance so far corresponds to so that you have an idea of how you are doing. The numerical scores of your record will be updated after each midterm. Any missing score will be set as zero.