Introduction to Differential Equations – Math 285 G1
Spring 2009
Syllabus

Instructor: Lee DeVille
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Course Web Page: http://www.math.uiuc.edu/~rdeville/teaching/285/
Lecture Time and Location: MWF, 3–3:50, Altgeld 245.
Office Hours: Illini Hall 344B, time TBD
Subject material: The material in chapters 1, 2, 3, 9, 10 will be the core of the course. See the online syllabus at http://www.math.uiuc.edu/Bourbaki/Syllabi/syl285_edwards-penney.html
Grading: The course grade will consist of two midterm exams, weekly homework assignments, in-class quizzes, and a final exam. Each of the midterms will be worth 20%, the final worth 35%, and the total homework score worth 20%, and the quizzes worth 5% of your final grade. Final grades will be determined from averages using the standard ten-point scale.
The tentative schedule for the exams will be

- Midterm 1: February 25, Chapters 1–2
- Midterm 2: April 8, Chapters 1–3
- Final Exam: 1:30–4:30 PM, Friday, May 15, location TBD, Chapters 1–3, 9–10

All tests and homework are cumulative. Homework will be assigned and collected regularly — there will be a homework assignment collected on most weeks throughout the semester.
Course goals and expectations:
This course is designed to be the student’s introduction to two important bodies of knowledge. The first is purely mathematical, and consists of the ability to solve a certain class of differential equations. The second is more practical, and involves an ability to use computational tools to understand the solutions of differential equations which cannot be solved. Both of these skills are indispensable to anyone in a scientific or engineering field, and this class is, for most students, the first step in these directions.