Introduction

Welcome to Differential Equations with Linear Algebra I! In this class we will use an integrated approach to learn these two subjects together. Since the vast majority of you are electrical engineering majors, many of the examples in class presentations and homework assignments will be from the area of basic circuit theory as covered in ELEG 205.

The texts for this course are


The texts are required, since you will be assigned both reading and homework problems from the books. In addition, I may also be lecturing from various other sources, so class attendance and participation is necessary for successful mastery of the material.

If you have any questions, contact me during my office hours or make an appointment. Extra copies of handouts are available at the Web page listed above.

You may bring a tape recorder with you to class, if you wish; however, unattended tape recorders will not be permitted. There will be no makeup classes for snow days.

Electronic Communication

The Web page for this course is listed on the top of the first page. There you will find copies of handouts available for downloading, as well as any important announcements (corrections to typographical errors, etc.). Also at the URL

http://www.math.udel.edu/~edwards/download/suggest.html

you will find an anonymous suggestion box.

Particularly important messages regarding this course may also be e-mailed to you directly. In addition, you may send me e-mail with questions regarding the course, homework assignments, etc. For more information on how to use electronic resources, contact the Help Center (x6000).
Exams

There will be four exams in the course; the dates are listed on the attached schedule. **NO MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN!** The first three will be 45 minutes long and will take place during a regular lecture period. The final exam will be two hours long. Please be prepared to show picture identification in order to enter the examination room. Attached to each examination will be a course evaluation form, so that I may receive your suggestions for how the course could be improved. These forms will be seen only by me, so if you have comments that you wish the department to hear, please contact them directly.

When the exams are returned, they will have a numerical score and a letter grade on them. The numerical score is your score for the exam; the letter grade is your grade for the course to that point, including all homework scores.

Assessment

Your grade for the course will be determined in two stages. First your raw score will be calculated from your exam scores, with the final counting as two exams. However, if including your homework scores will improve your score, I will let them count for 20% of your grade. Therefore, doing the homework can only help your grade. (In the past, it has been my experience that the vast majority of students improve their grades significantly by using their homework scores.) Then each of the raw scores will be scaled to determine final grades.

Homework

Homework will be distributed on Fridays during lecture (the first assignment is attached to this introduction), and it will be due at the beginning of class the following Friday. The homework will cover material up through the Monday after it is distributed. **ABSOLUTELY NO LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!** If you must miss a due date because of University business, it is your responsibility to make sure the homework gets to me before the due date. Since mathematics is a subject where the material for one section builds on the section before, it is critical that you keep up to date on the homework: hence the stringent policy. However, to calculate your semester-long homework average, I will drop your two lowest homework scores. Therefore, low scores for assignments where you were pressed for time can be erased as long as you don’t have too many of them.

Though you may not copy directly from another’s paper or use someone else’s ideas as your own, I encourage you to discuss the homework problems with your classmates. Any scientific endeavor is rarely done in a vacuum; therefore it is to your advantage to learn the benefits of collaborating. Model homework solutions will be placed on reserve in the library after the assignment is due. Hopefully these will assist you in learning the material.

Homework assignments should be folded like a book with the following information on the “front cover:”

Name
Math 341-010—Edwards
Assignment Number
Date
You will turn in your assignments this way so that I may put your grade on the inside, thus ensuring your privacy. I will make every effort to ensure that your graded homework is returned in a timely manner.

Each homework assignment will consist of ten questions. Of those, some randomly selected problems will not be graded. For these questions, you will receive one point if you attempted the problem. For the problems that will be graded, you may receive up to four points, depending on the completeness and accuracy of your solution.

Obviously, I can assign only a select few homework problems to be turned in. Therefore, I choose ones which, if mastered, show adequate understanding of the material. The examinations will largely be based on the material covered in the homework assignments. However, you are encouraged to try other problems in the book for practice.

**Tentative Schedule**

*Note:* This is only a tentative schedule; there may be deviations from it.

September 1–3: Sections B2.1, 2.2  
September 1: Homework 1 distributed

**September 6: Labor Day (no lecture)**

September 8–10: Sections B2.2–2.6, 3.1  
September 10: Homework 1 due; homework 2 distributed

week of September 13: Sections B3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.8

September 17: Homework 2 due; homework 3 distributed

week of September 20: Sections B3.6–3.9

September 24: Homework 3 due; homework 4 distributed

week of September 27: Sections B3.9; L1.1, 1.2  
October 1: Homework 4 due; homework 5 distributed

**October 4: Exam I** (covers chapters B2 and B3)

October 6: Sections L1.2, 3

**October 8: Fall Recess (no lecture)**

week of October 11: Sections L1.3, 1.4, 2.1

October 15: Homework 5 due; homework 6 distributed

week of October 18: Sections L2.1–2.3, 3.1, 3.2

October 22: Homework 6 due; homework 7 distributed

week of October 25: Sections L3.1–3.4

**October 29: Exam II** (covers chapters L1 and L2)

week of November 1: Sections L3.4–3.6

November 5: Homework 7 due; homework 8 distributed

week of November 8: Sections L3.6, 6.1, 6.3

November 12: Homework 8 due; homework 9 distributed

week of November 15: Sections L6.3, 6.4; B7.1, 7.4, 7.5

November 19: Homework 9 due; homework 10 distributed

**November 22: Exam III** (covers chapters L3 and L6)

November 24: Sections B7.5, 7.6

**November 26: Thanksgiving Recess (no lecture)**

week of November 29: Sections B7.6–7.9

December 3: Homework 10 due

December 6: Section B7.9

December 8: Formal Review Session

**December 17, 10:30–12:30: Final Exam** (covers entire class, but especially chapter B7)