MATH 203: Linear Algebra – Spring 2019

Instructor: Dr. George Whelan
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Office: GMU Korea Arts and Sciences # 549
Office Hours: Thursday 10:00 am -1:00 pm
Class Room: TBA
Class Time: Monday & Wednesday 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm


Course Objective: This course is intended to be an introduction to the techniques and theory of linear algebra, which is a central topic to modern mathematics. You will be introduced to such topics as systems of linear equations, linear independence, linear transformations, inverse of a matrix, determinants, vector spaces, eigenvalues, eigenvectors, and orthogonalization. We will also discuss several applications of the subject throughout the semester.

Calculators: Calculators will not be permitted.

Homework: There will be regular homework assignments. Some will be take home assignments, and some will be in-class worksheets. You may work with others and use open book and notes for the homework assignments (unless otherwise specified), but you must submit your own solutions.

Worksheets: There will be regular worksheets during class sessions. Worksheets will cover material from class, focusing on current material. However, they will often require knowledge of previous work. They will be open book, open notes, and collaboration is encouraged. However, you must submit your own solutions. They will not be graded for accuracy, but you must complete the entire worksheet in order to receive credit.

Tests: There will be three tests and a final exam. All tests will be closed-book and closed-notes. The tests will cover current material, and the final exam will be cumulative. You may only miss regularly scheduled tests with approval from the instructor ahead of time. If you must miss an exam through an emergency, it is upon you to provide official documentation for the purpose of your absence.

Test Make-up Policy: You may only miss regularly scheduled exams with prior approval from the instructor. If you must miss an exam, it is upon you to provide official documentation.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory, and will be taken during every class.

Grading: Attendance: 5%, Homework & Worksheets: 10%, Test 1: 20%, Test 2: 20%, Test 3: 20%, Final Exam: 25%

Final grades will be assigned based on the percentage points earned in the overall course, with:

A ≥ 90%
90% > B ≥ 80%
80% > C ≥ 70%
70% > D ≥ 60%
60% > F

No extra credit will be offered.
Additional Help: If you require additional help, the academic resource is available to you. The Academic Resource Center, GMUK is in the business of looking at your papers and problems to improve your academic achievement in the area of Writing, Mathematics, Accounting, Statistics, and Economics. You are invited to utilize the faculty and student tutor services at a variety of stages in your academic activities, checking to see that your project specifically meets the directions specified by your instructor. While tutors are helping you in your writing or projects, they do help you become conscious of particular error patterns that emerge in your work.

For more information, please contact Professor Eunmee Lee, director of the Academic Resource Center (eelee45@gmu.edu, office #638).

Disability Statement: If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Office of Disability Resources at +1 703 993 2474. Academic accommodations can be arranged through that office.

Honor Code: It is expected that each student in this class will conduct himself or herself within the guidelines of the GMUK honor code. Among other things, this means that a student sharing information of any kind about exams can result in that student being reported to the GMUK honor committee. See the university honor code: https://masonkorea.gmu.edu/honor-code/.