

Course policy

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I do not respond to questions that are already explained clearly in this document, in particular topics related to

- Enrollment
- Make-up exam
- Score evaluation
- How to solve a homework problem

~~~~~ I am a dividing line ~~~~~

**Office Hours: M 1:30PM-2:30PM (mainly for 228A) W 9:30AM-10:30AM (mainly for 54).**

**You can come during either period, but Wednesday is preferred.**

**Office:** Evans 1083

**GSI Office Hours (to be updated)**

## Textbook

Second Custom Edition for University of California, Berkeley Linear Algebra and Differential Equations.

## Enrollment

Enrollment is entirely done online. **I have no control of the enrollment process.**

If you have any question about enrollment, first check the website

<https://math.berkeley.edu/courses/enrollment/enrollment-updates>

For other enrollment questions, email

[enrollment@math.berkeley.edu](mailto:enrollment@math.berkeley.edu)

**For students in the concurrent enrollment program,** you need to get the concurrent enrollment form from **Thomas Brown (Evans 965)** first, and then take the form for me to sign before / after the class, or during the office hour.

### **Prerequisites**

1A-1B or equivalent. Note: calculus courses at most institutions either have no differential equations, or less than Berkeley's Math 1B. Transfer students who have taken such courses need to learn the relevant differential equations material (Stewart, Single Variable Calculus, Early Transcendentals, for UC Berkeley, Chapters 9 and 17) **on their own**, by approximately the week of Oct 23th, 2017. **Please contact the GSI in your discussion session if you have concern for this.**

### **Grading policy, exam, homework, quiz.**

Midterm 1 (20%) + Midterm 2 (20%) + Final (40%) + Homework (10%) + Quiz (10%)

Each midterm weighs 20 points, and the final weighs 40 points. However, if your final score is higher than one of your midterm scores after normalization, then the midterm with a lower score will be replaced by the final score after normalization, i.e. **at most one midterm can be replaced by the final**. For example, if you get 18 pts for Midterm 1, 10 pts for Midterm 2, and 32 pts for the Final, then your raw total pts from the exams will be  $18+(32/2)+32=66$ . Note that the score of midterm 2 is replaced by the normalized final score.

**You can miss AT MOST ONE midterm exam.**

**If you miss both midterm exams OR if you miss the final exam, you automatically FAIL the class. This is regardless of the performance for your other items for this course.**

**The general difficulty for the exam is Midterm 1 <= Midterm 2 <= Final. There is no point of “strategically” missing any exam.**

Midterm 1 examines all contents indicated by the range of the homework by the previous due date. This includes the lectures 8/23—9/11.

Midterm 2 examines all contents indicated by the range of the homework by the previous due date, **excluding** the range of materials already examined in Midterm 1. This includes the lectures 9/13—10/16.

The Final examines all contents in the semester, excluding the final lecture (12/1).

The scope of the exam is the union of everything in the book indicated by the syllabus and everything in the lecture notes.

**Homework** is assigned associated with each lecture and is due on Friday on a weekly basis. For example, the homework due this Friday will be the homework assigned with **Monday**'s lecture of the same week, and **Wednesday and Friday**'s lectures in the previous week. **No credit is given for homework turned in after the due date.** The lowest two scores for the homework will be dropped when counting towards the total score in the end.

**Quizzes** are given every Friday during the discussion session. **No make-up quiz is available in any discussion session.** The quiz always covers the same materials as the homework due in the same week. Each discussion session has its own quiz up to the choice of the GSI. The lowest two scores for the quizzes will be dropped when counting towards the total score in the end.

### **First week, last week, and other exceptions**

There is no homework due and there is no quiz during the first week. The assignments for the first week will be due during the second week. Same for quiz. The first discussion session starts on 8/25 (Friday).

When Friday is a holiday (Veteran's day and Thanksgiving this semester), the homework is due is on the **Monday** of the week. The Quiz will also happen on the same **Monday**. The range of the homework will be the lectures for the Wednesday and Friday in the previous week. Same for quiz.

The range of the homework / quiz during the last week of instruction will include the assigned contents on Wednesday. There is no assignment for the last lecture, and the content in the last lecture will not be examined in the Final (**12/1**).

## **Curving**

Homework and quiz scores will be curved within each GSI session. **Hence if your GSI tends to give easier/more difficult quizzes, do not worry. Your expected score (in the probability sense) will be the same.** Midterm and final scores are NOT curved separately. The curved homework and quiz scores within each discussion session, added to the adjusted scores of midterms and the raw final score will be your total raw score. The total raw score will be curved all-together including everyone in the class, with reference to the grade distribution of the same course in previous years. This will be the basis for your final letter score.

## **Make-up exam**

There will be no make-up exam given **in any circumstance**. If you find the final exam conflicts with your schedule, **please immediately switch to one of the other sessions, no later than 9/8/2016 (Friday)**.

## **DSP**

If you meet the requirement from the Disabled Students Program, and require special accommodations of any kind, **please let the GSI in your discussion session know as soon as possible**. The GSI will then summarize the cases and get back to me.

## **I-grade**

Grades of Incomplete will be granted only for direct medical or personal emergencies that cause you to miss the final, and only if your work up to that point **is of passing quality**.

## **Lecture notes**

Lecture notes will be uploaded to bCourses **from time to time** during the semester. **I may not upload the notes periodically, and surely not immediately after the class (for obvious reasons).** If you have questions related to materials of which the notes are not yet uploaded, check with other students' notes in class, and/or talk with the GSIs or me during the office hours. However, all lecture notes prior to any exam (midterm, final) will be available online before the exam.

## **Rules for all exams**

Closed book, closed notes.

No calculators.

No cheatsheet.

**DO NOT tear out any page or add any page during the exam.** There will be scratch pages. This is crucial for the grading process with gradescope. Write your name on the top left corner of each page. If your answer appears in the scratch paper appended in the end, refer to your answer using the page number.

### **Gradescope related question**

The two Midterms will be available on gradescope. After each midterm, a limited period will be available for submitting regrading requests.

The final exam is treated as “traditionally graded” exams on paper, i.e. the final will NOT be posted on gradescope. Any request for reviewing the final exam OR reviewing the breakdown of the raw score must be submitted during the following semester.

### **When you have a question in class:**

Raise your voice and ask it loudly! I do not mind at all being interrupted!

### **When you have a question after class:**

If you find a mistake in my lecture / homework assignment / note, **please let me know via office hour / email, and I will address it as soon as possible.**

Otherwise, if this is a question regarding how to solve a problem (esp. homework), I strongly believe that after trying your best, you can at least make a first step towards thinking about / solving the problem. I will always ask one question first:

#### **What is your first step towards solving this problem?**

Please note that the conversation will not continue without your answer to this question, and be prepared.

More generally, please go through the following list when you have a question. This could allow you to learn more about the materials. It also improves everyone's efficiency.

- 1) Can I try to figure it out by myself?
- 2) Can I find the answer easily on the web? (e.g. Great place for answers to common questions includes [mathoverflow](#), [wolfram](#), or simply [google](#) it! Come on...)
- 3) Can I work with my peers to figure it out?
- 4) If the question remains... Dear Mr. / Ms. GSI in my discussion session, what do you think?...
- 5) If the question remains... Come to my office hour: Lin, what do you think?...