MATH 2114 – Introduction to Linear Algebra – Fall 2015
CRN 84506: MWF 1:25 pm - 2:15 pm in McBryde Hall 126

Instructor: Bartley Ordonez  Phone: 231-8280
Office: 556 McBryde Hall  E-mail: bartod@vt.edu
Office Hours:
• MWF: 10:10am-11:10 am and TR: 3:30pm-5:00pm
• Other hours by appointment

Note: The Virginia Tech bookstore price includes both the book and access to MyMathLab.

Course Overview: Linear algebra is a branch of mathematics that studies systems of linear equations and the properties of matrices; and, more formally focus on vector spaces and its transformations. This course covers matrix theory and linear algebra, emphasizing topics useful in other disciplines. The concepts of linear algebra are extremely useful in physics, economics and social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering.

Course Content: Math 2114 is a challenging three-credit course covering important topics in Linear Algebra including vector and matrix operations, systems of linear equations, linear independence, bases, orthonormal bases, rank, linear transformations, and diagonalization. These topics are included in chapters 1 through 6.

Prerequisite: Math 1226 (or Math 1206), or a grade of B or better in Math 1225 (or Math 1205)

Grading: The number grade will be based upon three tests (each contributing 20%); the comprehensive final exam (20%), homework/quizzes (15%) and online homework (5%). The course grade will be assigned as follows: 90% will guarantee an A-, 80% a B-, 70% a C-, and a 60% a D-.
A plus or a minus will be assigned at my discretion.

Common-time Final Exam: Wednesday, Dec 16th; 11:05am-1:05pm. The final exam is a required class meeting that will not be rescheduled for discretionary reasons, including conflicts with work schedules and with classes and exams at other colleges.

Tests (Tentative Dates):
Test1: Thu, Sep 24,   Test2: Tue, Oct 27,   Test3: Thu, Dec 3
All the tests will be given from 7pm-9pm.
Conflicts with the above dates should be notified to me by the end of the first week of class.

Homework: From the list of problems I will post every week in the Assignments folder in Scholar, only selected problems will be graded. These problems will not be known to students in advance. Except for problems selected for grading, homework will not be marked. Submitted work is expected to be a neat and coherent exposition; excessively sloppy and/or illegible work will be returned without grading and credit.

Online Homework: You must register for MyMathLab at http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com Online homework is assigned via MyMathLab, the due dates are on its website.
Honor System: The Virginia Tech Honor System will be strictly enforced. Exams must be solely the individual’s work. You can discuss the homework problems with others; however, your solutions and answers should be product of your own understanding of the problems. Accessing homework solutions from any source (friend, on-line listing, fraternity file, etc.) is forbidden and considered a serious violation to the VT Honor Code.

Make-up Policy: Make-up tests will not be given. For an excused absence from a test, your final exam grade will substitute for that test grade. To avoid a zero grade you must provide documentation, from the appropriate university office, that shows that you had a valid reason. Late work will not be accepted. (Exceptions to the late-work policy may be made for individuals in the event of serious illness or personal emergency at the instructor’s discretion; contact the instructor immediately if such a situation arises. Exceptions generally will be made only if the instructor is notified about any emergency prior to the due date of any affected graded work.)

Attendance: Attendance will be taken and records will be sent to the Math Department. Attendance has no impact on grades. However, statistics show that there is a correlation between students who miss class and students who fail the course. You are responsible for all announcements made in class, posted on Scholar and the course webpage.

General Policy: The above policy statement represents criteria under which a student can demand to be evaluated. Changes will be made if, in my judgment, the interest of learning and fairness dictate such change. Unexcused absences and/or poor homework record will adversely affect chances for extra consideration.

Web Information:
- Course Website: www.math.vt.edu/courses/math2114
- Personal Homepage: www.math.vt.edu/people/bartod
- Scholar: http://scholar.vt.edu
- Pearson MyMathLab Registration and Sign In: http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com

Special Needs Students: Any student with special needs or circumstances should feel free to meet with me during office hours or to schedule an appointment early in the semester.

Caution: If you are not on the class roll that comes out after the last “add” date, immediately check your schedule at a terminal or at the registrar’s office and start attending the proper section. For no foreseeable reason (computer and registrar personnel mistakes included) will you be allowed to stay in the wrong section or to drop the section for which you are actually enrolled. By simply attending a section, you will not be placed on its roll.

CLASSROOM COURTESY: All students are entitled to learn in an environment free from any distraction or disruptions. Use of impolite or offensive language will be not tolerated in the classroom. I expect you to arrive to class on time and stay until class is dismissed. If for some unusual reason you know you will need to leave early, please notify me before class begins, sit as close to the exit as possible, and leave quietly. Talking to classmates during class, aside from group assignments, is disruptive to those around you. If you engage in such a behavior, I can and may ask you to leave. ALL CELL PHONES MUST BE SILENCED UPON ENTERING THE CLASSROOM. NO TEXTING DURING CLASS TIME. Laptops may distract your classmates sitting behind you, so if you want to use your laptop in class, you may consider sitting on the last row of the classroom.