Mathematics in a Computational Context I: Fall 2014

Instructor  Lizette Zietsman
426 McBryde Hall
E-mail: lzietsma@vt.edu or lzietsma@gmail.com

Office hours Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:30–10:30 in McBryde 426.
If regular times are not sufficient, students are invited to e-mail the instructor to schedule an appointment.

E-mail correspondence List your name and course number (MATH 2984H) in all e-mail correspondence.

Prerequisites Credit for two semesters of Calculus equivalent to MATH 1225 and MATH 1226.

Textbooks

- A Modern Introduction to Linear Algebra by Henri Ricardo,

A great deal of material will be presented only on the blackboard and students are responsible for everything said in class. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the class notes and assignments from fellow students. You are also responsible for any announcements made during class whether it has been posted on-line or not.

Software MATLAB is required for this course. Engineering students will have MATLAB in their software bundle. All other majors need to purchase MATLAB from The Software Distribution Office that is located in 3240 Torgersen Hall, see Student Software Distribution for more information. The estimated cost is $44 and this MATLAB license will be valid for as long as you are enrolled at Virginia Tech. This license also includes annual updates at not extra charge.

Note that MATLAB is available on the computers in the following classrooms/labs: Math Emporium, Torgersen 1010, Torgersen 1080, Torgersen 3250 (Bridge), Randolph 114E, ArchAnnex 1, Saunders 101, Newman Library Public Computers, GLC 40, Litton-Reaves 1370, Shanks 160, Shanks 180, Shanks 360. The Shanks rooms are not open for public use outside of class. The GLC room is restricted to graduate students. Newman Library Public machines are available during library hours.

Calculators No calculators will be allowed during quizzes or exams.

Course Resources All course related material and announcements will be posted on the MATH 2984H Scholar site. Check this site regularly for announcements and materials posted in the Resources folder.

You are not permitted to make posted solutions to homework problems, projects, quizzes or exams available to anyone not enrolled in this course during the fall 2014 semester. Violating this policy will be an honor code violation.

Attendance Attendance will be taken during each class and is based on your attendance at 8:00 A.M. (You will be considered absent if you are late for class.) Your attendance will count 5% towards your final grade and it is your responsibility to initial the attendance sheet.
Homework and Projects: Homework will be assigned during each class and will be collected on Thursdays. Selected problems will be graded. No late assignments will be accepted.

Quizzes: There will be weekly quizzes on the homework problems. There will be no make-up quizzes.

Graded work: Keep copies of all graded work handed back to you.

Exams: Three in-class exams will be given during the semester as well as a final exam/project.

Tentative Exam Dates
- Exam 1: September 24
- Exam 2: October 30
- Exam 3: November 20

The final exam/project deadline is scheduled for December 15 at 7:45 A.M.

Determination of Final Grade

Exam 1 and Exam 2 each count 15%, Exam 3 contributes 20% and the Final Project/Final Exam an additional 20% towards the final grade. Quizzes and graded homework assignments count 25% and attendance 5%. A final grade of 94% and higher will guarantee an A.

Make-Up Exams: There will be no make-up exams.

If you miss and exam, your score will be zero unless the reasons for your absence are serious, unavoidable and beyond your control. In this case, contact the instructor as soon as possible, and no later than 36 hours after the exam was taken. The instructor will decide how to handle this exam after consultation with you.

Academic Integrity: For graded homework assignments, you may discuss solutions with other students, but each student must do individual, independent write-ups to turn in. Direct copying of solutions or parts of solutions from any source is a violation of the honor code, as is sharing your solutions with others. All exams are to be done without any assistance from anyone else. Your work here is at all times governed by the Virginia Tech Undergraduate Honor System as stated in the Virginia Tech Undergraduate Catalog. Failure to follow these restrictions, and giving or receiving unauthorized aid or assistance on in-class quizzes or exams are Virginia Tech Honor System violations and cases will be filed.

For more information see the Honor Code Constitution.

General Course Policies

1. Class will start on time at 8:00 A.M., no tardiness will be accepted.
2. You need permission from the instructor to use an electronic device such as an iPad, laptop tablet, laptop computer etc. during class unless it is part of the class activity. These arrangements must be made in advance.
3. No cell phones or other electronic devices will be allowed on your person during quizzes or exams.
4. Be respectful of yourself, and others in the course.
5. Let the instructor know as soon as possible if you have a disability which requires additional accommodation.
6. Do not hesitate to ask if you have any questions.