Math 1225 Course Contract

Instructor: Ryan Nikin-Beers
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Office: McBryde 465 J
Office hours: M 10:30-1:00; T 9:00-11:30; W 10:30-12:00 or by appointment
Time: MWF 9:05-9:55; T 8:00-8:50
Place: MWF Litton-Reaves 1800; T McBryde 226
Website: http://www.math.vt.edu/courses/math1225/

Prerequisites: You must have at least one of the following:
1. A grade of B or better in any of Math 1014/1015/1016/1025/1536
2. Two units of high school algebra, one unit of geometry, ½ unit each of trigonometry and precalculus, and placement by the Mathematics Department
3. A passing grade on the Calculus Readiness Exam

Grading: Grades will be uploaded to Scholar. Please check regularly and let me know promptly if you notice any discrepancies. You will be given one week after an assignment or test is handed back to notify me about an incorrectly added total, an incorrectly entered or missing grade on Scholar, or any similar issue. Percentages of 90, 80, 70, and 60 guarantee A-, B-, C-, and D- respectively. The following is the breakdown of weights:

- Homework, In-class Quizzes, and Labs: 20%
- WebAssign Quizzes: 12%
- Tests: 48% total (4 tests, 12% per test)
- Final: 20%

Homework: Homework will be assigned regularly and posted to Scholar. Only a selected number of problems may be graded, although the problems to be graded will not be known to you beforehand. Homework may be turned in early, but no late assignments will be accepted.

In-class Quizzes: There may be announced or unannounced in-class quizzes throughout the semester. These will be based on the previous homework assignment.

Labs: There will be at least three labs throughout the semester which use Matlab. More information will be given about these assignments throughout the semester.

WebAssign Quizzes: Two quizzes will be assigned per week using WebAssign. You will have two attempts at each quiz, which will be graded by question. Some quizzes may be dropped at the end of the course.

Exams: There will be four common time exams and a common time final exam. The locations for the exams will be announced on the Math 1225 web page. Typically, they will not be the same as your lecture class. If it is to your benefit, your grade on the free response section of the final exam will replace your lowest test grade.
You must take tests on the specified date. If you have a verified conflict with the time scheduled for an exam, an alternative starting time for the exam on the same evening will be provided. Usually, makeup exams will not be given. If a student misses an exam for reasons that are serious, unavoidable, and beyond the student's control, the situation will be handled on an individual basis. When possible, the student should notify the instructor before missing the work.

The final exam is a required class meeting that will not be rescheduled for discretionary reasons, including conflicts with work schedules, conflicts with classes and exams at other colleges, and travel plans.

Test 1: Wednesday, September 16  
Test 2: Wednesday, October 14  
Test 3: Wednesday, November 4  
Test 4: Wednesday, December 2

Final: Friday, December 11 4:25-6:25 pm

**Attendance:** Attendance will be taken daily for departmental purposes. You are responsible for all material covered in classes you do not attend.

**Office Hours:** I will have office hours on Monday from 10:30-1:00 pm, on Tuesday from 9:00-11:30 am, and Wednesday from 10:30-12:00 pm. You are not required to make an appointment with me if you come during these scheduled time periods. However, if you are unable to make these times, you can contact me by email and we can set up an appointment.

**Tutoring:** If you need additional help, the staff in the tutoring lab at the Math Emporium will be able to assist you with your questions. Since this course is not an Emporium course, it is not appropriate to approach the floor staff in the general area with your questions about Math 1225. The tutoring lab is open 4:30-9:30 pm Sunday through Thursday. Also, you may hire a private tutor by sending an email to math_tutors-g@vt.edu indicating your specific needs.

**Courtesy:** You and your classmates are entitled to learn in an atmosphere of mutual respect, and freedom from distractions and disturbances. The following guidelines are in effect for this class:
1. Students are expected to arrive on time and stay until class is dismissed.
2. If you know ahead of time that you will be late or must leave early, please let me know in advance, sit as near the exit as possible, and enter or leave quietly.
3. Talking to classmates during class, aside from group assignments, is disruptive to those around you. If you engage in such behavior, I can and may ask you to leave.
4. Laptops used as a tablet PC are permitted provided they are used in the flat-on-the-desk position. Open laptops are not allowed.
5. Reading magazines and newspapers while class is in session is inappropriate.
6. Cell phones must be turned off before you enter the classroom.
7. Please be patient with and respectful of others when they ask a question, even if the answer seems obvious to you.
**Honor Statement:** All assignments, tests, and quizzes submitted will be considered graded work and must be completed on an individual basis. Homework may be discussed with other students as well as with the instructor. However, in writing up an assignment to be handed in, each student works alone (without other students or other students’ papers) and certifies that what is written accurately represents the student’s own understanding of the material expressed in the student’s own words. In working, or in preparing to work, homework problems, students may not consult partial or complete solutions of the problems that have been prepared by anyone else. The prohibited solutions include, but are not limited to, solutions by current or former teachers or students at VT or elsewhere, whether these solutions are posted on the web or available from other sources. The honor code applies to all graded work in this course. If you have any questions about how the honor code applies to a particular situation, it is your responsibility to ask.

**Disabilities:** If you need adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please come to my office and talk to me as soon as possible.

**Communication:** Notices and updates about this class will be sent to your Virginia Tech email account. You are responsible for checking this account daily.