Math 211Q

Spring
2006

Information

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MATH 211Q - Elementary Differential Equations
University of Connecticut - Spring 2006

Instructor: Tom Bella (bella@math.uconn.edu)
Office Hours in MSB 419C:

Monday	9:00am-9:50am
Wednesday	9:00am-9:50am
Wednesday	1:00pm-1:50pm

and by appointment

Course Website: `http://www.math.uconn.edu/~bella/math211`
Prerequisites: Math 116Q or Math 121Q
Course Meeting Times:
MWF 8:00am - 8:50am MSB 311

Textbook:
Differential Equations
2nd Edition, Blanchard, Devaney & Hall

Course Description & Goals. Welcome to Elementary Differential Equations! We will try in this course to understand and apply the main ideas of differential equations to various problems and applications. Emphasis will be placed not only on solving problems, but on the ability to apply what has been learned to new, never before seen problems, and to effectively communicate your solutions.

Grading. Course grades will be based on understanding of the subject material. This understanding will be evaluated in the following way:

Average Calculation	
Homework & Quizzes	15%
Exams (2)	50%
Final Exam	35%

Please notice that no outside factors, including any need for a certain grade for admission/retention in any academic program, scholarship or transfer credit, graduation requirements or personal desire for a specific grade appear in the above listing, and thus are not considered in any way in the determination of your course grade. Effort, improvement, class attendance and participation will all dramatically improve your grade in the course in that they will allow you to do well on quizzes, exams, and the final exam. They will **NOT**, however, actively participate in the calculation of your course grade. Any questions or concerns regarding your course grade should be discussed well before the final exam. Once the final exam is administered, your grade is final and no makeups or extra credit will be offered. Additionally, incompletes will not be given to students who are dissatisfied with their grades at the end of the semester.

Homework. There will be two types of homework; some problems will be collected for grading, and some will be just for your own practice. It is highly recommended that you work through all problems, as quizzes and exams are written under this assumption.

The homework to be collected will be clearly indicated as such, although not all collected problems will always be graded. Homework will be collected about every other week. You are permitted, if not encouraged, to work together on these assignments, provided you write up your solutions yourself. You will receive a separate sheet regarding written solutions.

Quizzes. We will also have an in class quiz about as often as homeworks are due. This will be short, about 15-20 minutes. Quiz grades and homework grades will all be averaged together, and, in all likelihood, at least one assignment will be dropped from grading.

Exams. We will have two exams and a (cumulative) final exam. The two exams will tentatively be held on March 3rd and April 14th. I will give plenty of notice of the exam topics as they approach.

Makeups & Missed Assignments. If it is not possible for you to take an exam (or the final exam) on the scheduled date for a university-excused documented reason I must be notified prior to the exam, and provided with documentation.

If an exam is missed for an excused reason with documentation, your grade on that exam will be equal to your grade on the final exam. Makeup exams will not be given. Be advised that if the final exam is missed and excused by the Dean of Students, makeups are scheduled during the first few weeks of the next semester.

No makeups will be given on quizzes regardless of the reason for the absence. No exceptions, please do not ask. Collected homework will not be accepted after class on the date it is due. No exceptions, please do not ask. If you miss a class and happen to miss a quiz or the opportunity to hand in homework, you will receive a 0, but that grade may be dropped, as specified above.

Attendance. I expect you to come to each class. You are responsible for anything that goes on in each class, present or not, including any announcements about assignments, exams, due dates, etc. I will take attendance each day, either verbally or through a sign-in sheet. You must sign in each day that you are present, as each day after class all blank sign-in boxes will be crossed out. Please do not sign in over these marks, even if you were present and forgot to sign in.

Material. The course will consist of information presented in class as well as information in the textbook in sections covered or mentioned in class. I expect that you will be reading along in the textbook as we cover each section (before we cover the section is probably preferable) and doing problems to aid and test your understanding. Homework, quizzes and exams are written under this assumption.

Calculator Policy. You may use calculators on homework and graded assignments, however all work must still be shown. Details of calculator use on exams and/or quizzes will be given in advance. At no time will any calculator that can perform symbolic manipulations (such as the TI-89) be permitted.

Academic Misconduct. University Policy requires that a statement regarding academic misconduct be included on all syllabi. The official definition of academic misconduct (aka cheating, plagiarism, etc) can be found in the Student Code. I do not include it verbatim here because we all know what it is. Suffice it to say that it will not be tolerated at any level, and University Policy states the maximum penalty for academic misconduct imposed by an instructor is failure for the course, a penalty I feel is justified for **any** act of academic misconduct.