

## Autumn 2023: Syllabus for LinA

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### For all of my courses

[Specific [Linear Algebra](#) info starts on the next page.]

Who? Prof. King      Address: [squash@ufl.edu](mailto:squash@ufl.edu)

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To find my office (402 Little Hall; Top floor, NE corner) just “[Maximize  \$x\$ ,  \$y\$  and  \$z\$ .](#)” (Note: I do *not* pick up tel. messages remotely, but do read email multiple times a day. It is almost always better to email me first, before telephoning my office.) **Ph.D student AARON THRASHER will be assisting. Aaron’s office is 475 LITTLE HALL.**

[Aaron’s webpage](#)

<https://people.clas.ufl.edu/akolby-thrasher/>

*Class attendance is [required](#), and is part of a student’s [CP](#), [Class participation](#), [grade](#).*

**Contacting Prof.K.** If you need to get an important message to me (e.g. you’ll be missing an in-class exam), it is *particularly important* that you **email me from your UF address** as soon as possible; preferably several weeks or days before the exam; several hours before, if you didn’t know in advance.

I do *not* pick up office phone messages remotely, so it is important that you email me. If urgent, you should also tel. the math dept, **352-294-2350**, and they can contact me at home. The secretaries can also put a note in my mailbox if you request it. [All these tel.numbers are *wired phones*; they do not take text-messages.]

**IMPORTANT:** I will primarily use **email** for contacting students, *not* Canvas-mail. I ask that students read email *at least* twice a day morning/evening (excepting for religious observance).

**IMPORTANT:** Students will be typesetting solutions to problems and will need a real **computer**; a cellphone does not suffice. Also, students will need access to a **printer**, as some of the typeset assignments will need to be handed-in on paper (not electronically).

As some office-hours will be via Zoom, students will need Zoom-capability.

### **Prof.K’s clickable links:**

- [Teaching Page](#) <http://squash.1gainesville.com/teaching.html> Has important info for *all* my courses. Gives links to *Putnam competition*, *Robert Long essay competition*, links to the free mathematical typesetting language  $\text{T}_\text{E}\text{X}/\text{L}\text{A}\text{T}_\text{E}\text{X}$ .

The Teaching Page also has an extensive list of:

Usually Useful Pamphlets.

- **Our LinA Webpage:** <http://squash.1gainesville.com/course.LinA.curr.html> Info for the current semester, as well as links to previous versions (see [Nostalgia](#)) of LinA, containing previous exams and microquizzes, for your studying pleasure!
- **Prof. King’s page at UF** <https://people.clas.ufl.edu/squash/> has a link to the *Robert Long essay competition*.
- **Prof.K schedule & office hours** <http://squash.1gainesville.com/info.jksched.html>
- **Math Dept. homepage** <http://math.ufl.edu/> . Searchable. A wealth of information on applying to grad school, seminars, conferences, faculty,staff,grad listings, tutors for hire.

### **University resources, clickable:**

- \* **UF syllabus policy** <https://people.clas.ufl.edu/squash/univ-syllabus-policy/>
- \* **Accommodation for students with disabilities** <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>
- \* **UF Teaching Center** <https://academicresources.clas.ufl.edu/> has free tutoring, both in-person and via zoom.
- \* **Writing Studio** <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> 2215 Turlington, 352-846-1138.
- \* The UF **Help desk** <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/> 352-392-4357.
- \* **End-of-Semester student evals of professors** <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>

**LOR: Letter-of-recommendation.** I base LORs substantially on how a student “thinks on his/her feet”

I require **two** courses with me, at least one of which is *proof-based*, as well as the student actively participating in class. (Occasionally, one course may suffice if it is a **graduate course** or a **Special Topics** course, e.g. my MATHEMATICAL CRYPTOGRAPHY course.)

**Microquizzes.** There will be some number of “pop” (unannounced) microquizzes (**MQ**), each worth 30points. (Just handing-in the MQ with name and ordinal earns 5points.)

MQs never occur on religious holidays; **email me** of all such religious dates by the first Wedn. after Add/Drop.

Usually, a pop-quiz has a single, easy question. I use them partly for attendance, and checking that an idea from the previous class caught on.

IMPORTANT: I *drop* the lowest microquiz score. AND: There is **No makeup** for the first missed MQ, regardless of reason; that is what the dropped-score is for.

If a 2<sup>nd</sup> MQ is missed, I may give a make-up, if there was an emergency or if I knew in advance (e.g, you are giving a talk at a conference, and you let me know well in advance). □

**Class Archive.** We will all use our **LinA Archive**, a LISTSERV, to communicate to the whole class.

Once Add/Drop has ended, I will email out how to post-to/read-from our **Archive**, which plays the role of a **LinA Wikipedia** that students build during the semester, acting as a reference for everyone in class.

Students will be posting problem-solutions to the Archive, as part of their CP (Class Participation) grade.

**Canvas.** Canvas will be used for recording grades, but not much else. We will primarily use *email* and our class Archive (a LISTSERV) to communicate with each other outside of class.

**End-of-Semester Games Party!** If COVID *et al* stays low, then we will have an *End-of-Semester Games Party*. (We might also have a “team building” *Games Party* mid-semester.) In the past, the Games Party has been on the last date of class, at Pascal’s Cafe, in the

Christian Study Center of Gainesville  
112 NW 16th Street

**Abbreviations.** MQ, Microquiz. OH, Office-Hour. CP, Class participation. IP, Individual Project. IOP, Individual Optional Project. RLEC, Robert Long Essay Competition.

**RLEC.** Each year, students who like to write short essays may enter the *Robert Long Essay Competition*. The RLEC has a monetary prize and, more importantly, looks great on a CV.

Office Hours: TBD

### Specific LinA information:

*LinA* is an introduction to *Linear Algebra*, with emphasis on finite-dim’al spaces.

**Texts:** The official text is the 5<sup>th</sup>-edition of **Linear Algebra**, by **Friedberg, Insel, Spence**, However, the 4<sup>th</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> edition is fine. This is a good text, well worth owning.

A picture of the cover is on our course webpage

**Course Page:** **LinA**

<http://squash.1gainesville.com/course.LinA.curr.html>

**Course/Room.** MAS4105 3247 (14608) Linear.Algebra.1  
MTWF6 MAT 7 Prof. King / Aaron Thrasher

The class meets in **Matherly Hall, room 7** on MTWF at 6th period, 12:50-13:40.

**CP grades.** Each of Sept., Oct., Nov. has a **CP**, **Class participation**, 45pt grade based on speaking in class, attending OHs (sometimes via Zoom), and *especially* **posting solns to non-trivial problems to our Archive**. A typical grade is 20. For *exceptionally* active students, I may give a grade a bit higher than 45.

**MQ grades.** Each microquiz is 30pts Typically, MQs are not announced. A MQ usually has a single routine question. The *lowest MQ score* is dropped; **there is no makeup for the first missed MQ**.

*The classday following an in-class exam usually has an MQ with a slight variation of a question from the exam.*

NOTE: There will be a MQ the classday before, and the classday after, Thanksgiving Break.

(continued...)

**LinA Exams.** Each MQ (microquiz) is 30pts; 5pts just for handing it in, with name and ordinal correct. There will be microquizzes on the classdays before and after *Thanksgiving Break*.

There is also a CP, class participation, grade for each month; a typical grade is 20pts.

There will be an end-of-semester take-home Individual Optional Project [IOP] that will be due the day after the semester's last class-day.

**Exams for Autumn-semester, 2023:** Each of the 3 exams is  $\approx 200$ pts.

Class U: **TBD**.

There will be MQs on the classdays before and after *Thanksgiving Break*.

**TBD** and **TBD**. (The dates of SB are March 5-12.)

Class V: **TBD**.

Class W: **TBD**.

Withdraw-date: **TBD**

There will be a microquiz on the classday after each exam-day. Occasionally, an exam needs to be moved a classday earlier or a classday later.

Last classday: **Wedn., 20Apr2022**.

Typeset INDIVIDUAL PROJECT (possibly optional): Due **Thursday, 21Apr2022**, slid completely under my office door, LIT402. I will give an *estimate* of current course-grade by the withdraw date of **Frid., 08Apr2022**.

*Sincerely, Prof. King* [LinearAlg]