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Department of Mathematics

College of Liberal Arts and
Sciences

mas4105 syllabus

Linear Algebra

Class Number: 19017 Section 1223 Fall 2023

Instructors

Scott McCullough

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Text

[Linear Algebra Done Wrong](#) by Sergeie Triel.

A slightly different earlier version of the text is also available from Lulu press in paper back at a cost, with shipping, of around \$20. Allow two or three weeks for delivery.

Course Content and Objectives

A careful and rigorous introduction to linear algebra. Topics include vector spaces, linear transformations, bases, systems of linear equations, inner product spaces and elementary spectral theory. In addition to mastery of the course content, course objectives include reading, writing, and discovering proofs and constructing proofs and counter examples.

Suggested Problems

Selected problems from the text will be assigned at the conclusion of most class meetings.

Homework

Six homework problems, each worth 15 points, will be assigned, collected, and graded. Homework will be worth 90 points in total.

Quizzes

There will be four quizzes each worth 15 points given during the Tuesday discussions. Quizzes will be worth 60 points in total.

Exams

There will be two 75 point exams. Makeup exams (documentation required) will be given during the time reserved for a final exam. Exams will be worth 150 points total. The exam dates below are tentative.

Exam 1. Wednesday 12 October.

Exam 2. Tuesday 5 December.

Grading

A course total will be computed by adding the exam and homework scores (total 150). Grades will then be assigned according to a straight scale:

270 A; 260 A-; 250 B+; 240 B; 230 B-; 220 C+; 200 C; 180 D.

See the current UF policy on assigning grade points.

Attendance

Attendance is recommended.

Correspondence

In accordance with University policy, all written communication should be through canvas messaging.

Expectations and grading rubric

Work submitted for a grade in this course will be graded in a most rigorous fashion, and should be prepared with thought and care.

Most of the work required in this course will consist of writing proofs. For a homework problem worth 10 points requiring a proof, scores will be based on the following guidelines.

0 points. The work contains no original steps toward a correct solution. This category includes work that simply consists of relevant definitions or theorems without interpretation.

3 point. The work contains some original steps toward a correct solution but does not contain a workable outline of the full solution. This grade is also used if the student has misunderstood the question or made an unwarranted simplifying assumption that makes the problem trivial.

6 points. The work contains several steps toward a solution. However, the writing may be unclear, or there may major deficiencies in the arguments.

9 points. The work contains an outline of a correct solution and several steps toward this solution. However, the writing may be unclear, or there may be holes in the argument.

12 points. The work resembles a full, complete proof, but it has some serious deficiencies. These deficiencies may include incomplete sentences, abbreviating words with logical symbols such as those for “for all” or “implies”, imprecise definitions, or overlooking trivial cases. In general this grade is reserved for work which would receive 15 points with minor revision.

15 points. The work consists of a full complete proof and is reasonably well written in proper mathematical style with complete sentences and without logical symbols. There may be minor typos or clumsy writing that could be improved, but the mathematics is essentially correct — no important steps of the solution are omitted or incorrect.

Additional Information:

Grades. Grading will be in accord with the UF policy stated at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>. Also see the [current UF policy on assigning grade points](#).

Academic Honesty. The course will be conducted in accordance with the University honor code and academic honesty policy

UF students are bound by The Honor Code Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.” On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have questions or concerns please consult with the instructor.

Accommodation for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Online Evaluations. “Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu> . Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.”

Additional Information- Health and Wellness:

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact ummatter@ufl.edu or 352-392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center:

<https://www.counseling.ufl.edu>; 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS):

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department:

392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies, <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

Additional Information- Academic Resources:

E-learning technical support
352-392-4357 (option 2)
Learningsupport@ufl.edu

Career Connections Center:
Reitz Union, 392-1601.
Career assistance and counseling, <https://career.ufl.edu>

Library Support:
<http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>

Additional Information- Diversity Statement:

The Mathematics Department is committed to diversity and inclusion of all students. We acknowledge, respect, and value the diverse nature, background and perspective of students and believe that it furthers academic achievements. It is our intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: race, color, creed, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religious status, national origin, ethnicity, disability, socioeconomic status, and any other distinguishing qualities.

Tentative weekly schedule – very tentative

Chapter 1, three weeks
Chapter 2, three weeks
Chapter 3, two weeks
Chapter 4, one week
Chapter 5, three weeks
Chapter 6, three weeks