Course Information

Professor: Pramod N. Achar
Office: 266 Lockett Hall
Phone: 578-7990
E-mail: pramod@math.lsu.edu
Office hours: Mon. 1:30pm–3:00pm and Thurs. 8:30am–10:00am
Section 4: 12:40pm–1:30pm MTWTh
243 Lockett Hall
Section 7: 7:40am–8:30am MTWTh
232 Lockett Hall

If you cannot make it to my office hours, you may arrange to meet with me at another time by appointment.

Course outline. This semester, we will cover selected material from Chapters 1–9 of the textbook Differential Equations and Linear Algebra (2nd Edition, Prentice-Hall, 2000) by Stephen W. Goode, roughly by the following schedule:

Part I: Introduction to Differential Equations
Chapters 1 & 2 2 weeks
Part II: Linear Algebra
Chapters 3–6 7 weeks
Part III: Using Linear Algebra to Solve Differential Equations
Chapters 7–9 5 weeks

Homework. Homework assignments will be due approximately once a week. I will be using the WeBWorK system for online submission and grading of homework. Feel free to work together with other students on the homework. WeBWorK is accessible from the course website (see below)—let me know immediately if you have trouble logging into or using the system.

Website. The course website is at http://www.math.lsu.edu/~pramod/2090/. All class materials will be posted on this page. In particular, the WeBWorK login page can be accessed from here.

Exams. There will be three one-hour in-class exams and a two-hour comprehensive final exam. The dates of the exams are given below. If there is any circumstance that may prevent you from taking an exam on the scheduled date, you must discuss it with me in advance.

1st Hour Exam: Tuesday, February 15
2nd Hour Exam: Thursday, March 10
3rd Hour Exam: Tuesday, April 12
Final Exam: Tuesday, May 10, 7:30am–9:30am
Section 4: Tuesday, May 10, 7:30am–9:30am
Section 7: Wednesday, May 11, 10:00am–12:00pm

No calculators will be allowed on exams.

Grading. The final grade will be determined as follows:

Homework: 10%
Hour Exams: 54% (3 exams, 18% each)
Final Exam: 36%

I typically curve course grades based on the performance of the class. Of course, 90% is guaranteed to be an A, 80% is guaranteed to be at least a B, etc.

Cheating. High standards of academic integrity are crucial for the University to fulfill its educational mission. In view of this, you may not communicate with other students by any means during any exams, and you may not use any supplementary materials (notes, books, or electronic equipment). Students suspected of violating this policy will be referred to the Judicial Affairs division of the Office of the Dean of Students.

Students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may have some impact on your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see a staff member in the Office of Disability Services (112 Johnston Hall) so that such accommodations can be considered. Students that receive accommodation letters, please meet with me to discuss the provisions of those accommodations as soon as possible.