

MATH 341, SPRING 2016
LINEAR ALGEBRA AND MATRIX THEORY

ANDREW J. BLUMBERG

1. SYLLABUS

- **Text:** Elementary linear algebra (Andrilli and Hecker) and Linear Algebra Done Right (Sheldon Axler). Both of these books are available as pdf downloads from the library.
- **Instructor:** Andrew J. Blumberg
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blumberg@math.utexas.edu
- **Office hours:** Tuesday 4-5 pm and Wednesday 4-5 pm, or by appointment.
- **Overview:** This course has three main goals:
 - (i) To provide an overview of elementary linear algebra,
 - (ii) to provide an introduction to proofs, and
 - (iii) to provide an introduction to mathematical abstraction.The lectures will proceed through the first two chapters of Andrilli and Hecker (with some omissions) and then transition to Axler; we will go as far as we can.
- **Prerequisites:** M408D with a grade of at least a C.
- **Grading policy:** The final grade will be determined based on:
 - (i) Homework, 15%,
 - (ii) quizzes 10%,
 - (iii) two midterm exams at 20% each (total of 40%), and
 - (iv) the final exam 35%.Plus/minus letter grades will be assigned.
- **Homework policies:** Homework will be assigned every Thursday, and due by 5 pm the following Friday. Late homeworks will not be accepted. The lowest two homework scores will be dropped.

I encourage working in groups to solve the homework problems. However, do not write down anything that you do not understand. A good rule of thumb is that if your homework was destroyed by fire, it should be easy for you to rewrite it without help from anyone else.
- **Attendance:** I expect that students will attend all classes. Although attendance is not explicitly used for determining grades, in-class quizzes will be given frequently; no make-ups quizzes will be given.

- **Midterms:** There will be two in-class midterm exams during the semester. The dates of these exams are: Tuesday, February 16th and Tuesday April 5th. No make-up exams will be held.
- **Final exam:** The final will be held Friday, May 13, from 2:00–5:00 pm.
- **Class web site:** Handouts, homework, and other miscellaneous announcements will be posted to the class website at:
<http://math.utexas.edu/blumberg/341.html>
- **Students with disabilities:** The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-6441 TTY.

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