

MATH 553 – Partial Differential Equations – Spring 2007

PROFESSOR: Jared C. Bronski (jared@math.uiuc.edu)

OFFICE HOURS: To be arranged at first class meeting, or by appointment¹.

LECTURES: MWF 12:00 – 12:50 (341 Altgeld Hall)

TEXT: McOwen, “Partial Differential Equations: Methods and Applications”. (I use the second edition.)

SCHEDULE: *See attached sheet*

GRADING: Final letter grade based on homework, a midterm and a final.

The grading scheme will be roughly as follows

- Final Exam at 100 points ($\approx 29\%$ of the course grade)
- 2 Midterms at 100 points/per ($\approx 29\%$ of the course grade)
- Homework worth 50 points ($\approx 14\%$ of the course grade)

the exact numbers will probably vary slightly (no more than a few percent either way.)

Homework will be assigned (more or less) every week. I recommend actually doing the homework, since this is the only way to learn the material. Students who do not do the homework are unlikely to do well on the exams. You are **ENCOURAGED** to work together on the homework. In fact up to three people may submit a single homework, and all will receive the same grade. It is expected, of course, that all students whose names appear on a homework actually worked on it. If you have questions on any homework problems I will be happy to work them in class or during office hours.

Homework is due **IN CLASS** on the due date. If you cannot make it to class you should have a friend turn your homework in for you or put it in my mailbox **before** class. Late homework **will not** be graded. I will, however, drop the lowest homework grade.

¹You are welcome to come by my office any time with questions, and as long as I am not too busy I will be happy to answer them.

Your first homework is attached.

EXAM DATES:

The midterm and final will be given as long homework assignments which should be done **individually**.

HOMEWORK:

Again I highly recommend that you do the homework, and that you work together with a friend. I may also hand out an occasional extra credit problem. These will typically be more challenging. These will also **NOT** be counted towards your grade, though students solving these problems will be accorded bragging rights. I may also look at the extra credit problems for students on the border between two grades, so if you do the extra credit problems you should turn them in.

I also **strongly** recommend that you make use of my office hours. It is best if you think about problems first, then come to my office with questions. Almost no one understands mathematics on the first exposure. You must combine the lecture and the textbook with working on homework and going to office hours to maximize your chances of doing well in the class.

If you are unable to make my office hours you may come by any time, and I will either help you on the spot (if I am not too busy) or I will arrange a time when we can meet.