

SYLLABUS: MATH 415 SPRING 2012

PROF. R. KEDEM

1. LOGISTICS

1.1. **Course website.** <http://www.math.uiuc.edu/~rinat/415>. Announcements, changes to the schedule, links to your grades, assignments and class notes can be found there. This document in its final form (including help hours, grader, grader office hours) will also be found there. Always check this website on the day before class, and before starting your homework.

1.2. **My coordinates.** Email: rinat at illinois dot edu. Office: 342 Illini Hall. Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday 11-12.

1.3. **Help hours.** There will be common help hours in the math department for math 415 students of all sections, see course website for location and hours.

1.4. **Grader.** See course website. The grader is responsible for grading your quizzes and will have office hours.

1.5. **Textbook.** *Linear Algebra with Applications* 4th Edition by Otto Bretscher. There is an online version of this book. This textbook is *not required* – any other linear algebra text will cover the same material. However the exercises assigned are from this book. If you don't want to purchase it, you can find it on reserve in the library. The textbook by Leon is a fine alternative.

1.6. Homework.

- (1) **Pre-class reading and exercises.** You should read the material to be covered in class (listed on the website) before coming to class. Some simple exercises will often be assigned prior to class based on this reading. Check the website on the evening before the class. These are to be handed in **at the beginning of class**. Handing these in at that time can add 5% extra credit to your grade.
- (2) **Homework exercises.** Higher level exercises are listed as due on the website. You should hand these in on the due date, in class. These are worth 30% of your grade.
- (3) **Don't wait until the day before the exam to ask me questions!** Exam questions may be based on recommended exercises which are not graded. The solutions to odd-numbered questions are in the text. If you do not understand some of the recommended exercises, ask about them during the next class period.
- (4) Absolutely **no late homework** will be accepted. To deal with contingencies, the 2 lowest homework grades will be dropped from your grade. No homework will be accepted by email, in my mailbox after the hour they are due, or in my office.

- (5) **Grading scheme.** Each graded problem is worth 5 points. 1 point will be given for properly stating the question to be answered, 2 points for a correct, clearly stated argument leading to a solution, and 2 points for a correct, clearly stated conclusion. Approximately one problem will be graded from each subsection.
- (6) The solutions should be written **neatly** so that the grader should have absolutely no trouble understanding your argument and final answer. **Hint:** Copy the solution on a new sheet of paper after you have solved the problem on scratch paper. The grader is not required to grade any solutions which he/she has difficulty reading.
- (7) You are highly encouraged to **form study groups**, and you may do the problems together. However, *do not copy the solutions!* Once you understand how to do a problem, writing it up for handing in should be an independent process.

1.7. **Lectures.** You are encouraged to actively participate in the classroom: Ask questions, ask for clarification, and be otherwise engaged. There are online lectures covering the same material in linear algebra, and you can read the material in many places. The classroom is an interactive resource for you: Do not be a passive consumer in class.

1.8. **Exams.** There will be three exams during the semester

- Exam 1: February 7, 15%.
- Exam 2: March 8, 15%.
- Exam 3: April 19, 15%

There will be **no makeup exams** unless arrangements are made **in advance** of the exam date. No exceptions are made to this rule.

1.9. **Final.** The final is 1:30-4:30pm Wednesday May 9. It is worth 25% of your grade.

2. GENERAL

In class: No cellphones allowed at any time. No food of any sort including chewing gum. Laptops must remain in their case during the entire class time.

During exams: In addition to the above, no calculators are permitted during exams. No talking to other students. No electronic devices of any kind.