

## Math 280: Introduction to Linear Algebra, Fall 2014

**Meetings:** TR 2:35-3:50 in SH 109

**Instructor:** Shibin Dai

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**Office:** SH 243

**Phone:** 646-2105

**Class Webpage:** <http://www.math.nmsu.edu/~sdai/teaching/201408-Fall-280/Math280-201408-Fall.html>

**Office Hours:** MW 10:30-11:20, Th 10:30-11:20 and by appointment

**Prerequisite:** C or better in Math 192G.

**Textbook:** *Linear Algebra and its applications*, 4th Edition, by David C. Lay. We will cover most of Chapters 1–5 and part of Chapter 6.

**Course Objectives:** Students will learn the theory of linear algebra, including systems of linear equations, vector spaces, linear transformations, determinants, and eigenvalues. Applications of these topics will also be studied. Students will be exposed to mathematical reasoning, proofs, and abstract structures, and will learn methodologies of mathematical proof.

**Computer Algebra system/Calculators:** A computer algebra system, such as Scientific Workplace, Maple, Matlab, Mathematica or MuPad may be useful for some matrix problems. Most graphing calculators have matrix functionality. The computers in the SH 118 have Scientific Workplace installed. We will not use any software for this class, and will not discuss anything about softwares or calculators. Calculators will not be allowed on quizzes and exams.

**Extra Help:** It is best to come to office hours or make an appointment when you have trouble. But the department also provides assistance from graduate students in WH 101. A schedule will be placed on the door of that room.

**Homework (10%):** Homework will usually be due at the beginning of the Tuesday class. Homework assignments will be posted on the course website. No late homework will be accepted. Solutions to homework will be posted on the class webpage.

**Quizzes (20%):** There will be 5 quizzes during the semester. The problems will be similar to class examples and homework. The dates are the Thursdays on 09/11, 09/25, 10/16, 10/30, 12/04.

**Exams (40%, 20% each):** There will be two exams in class on **Thursday Oct 2** and **Thursday Nov 13**.

**Final (30%):** A comprehensive final exam will be held on Thursday Dec. 11, 3:30-5:30 pm in SH 109.

**Grades:** Grades will be assigned as follows:

A [90%,100%], B [80%,90%), C [70%,80%), D [60%,70%), F [0,60%)

**Make-up Exams and quizzes:** Make-up exams and quizzes will be provided only in the case of a documented legit excuse, at the discretion of the instructor. Excused absences include absences due to illness and travel on university or career-related business. (See also the section *Attendance and Student Performance* on pg. 23 of the 2011-2012 Undergraduate University Catalog.) Unless it is an unforeseen circumstance, arrangements must be made prior to the date of the exam.

**Withdrawals and Incompletes:** You have the primary responsibility for withdrawing from the course. **The last day to drop with a “W” is Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.** Under university policy, the grade of **I** (incomplete) is given for passable work that could not be completed due to circumstances beyond the student’s control. The I grade should not be used to avoid a student receiving a D or F grade.

**Important Notes:**

- You are expected to attend every class and show up on time.
- Announcements and grading will be communicated to you through Canvas. Access your Canvas account regularly.
- At the end of the final examination, the course is over, and there are no more opportunities to submit additional work.
- I will not compose extra credit assignments for students who want to try to compensate for poor results in another component of the course.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is using another person's work without acknowledgment, making it appear to be one's own. Intentional and unintentional instances of plagiarism are considered instances of academic misconduct and are subject to disciplinary action such as failure on the assignment, failure of the course or dismissal from the university. The NMSU Library has more information and help on how to avoid plagiarism at <http://lib.nmsu.edu/plagiarism/>

**Disabilities and Discrimination:** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cover issues relating to disability and accommodations. If a student has questions or needs an accommodation in the classroom (all medical information is treated confidentially), contact:

Trudy Luken  
Student Accessibility Services (SAS) - Corbett Center, Rm. 244  
Phone: 646.6840 E-mail: [sas@nmsu.edu](mailto:sas@nmsu.edu)  
Website: [www.nmsu.edu/~ssd/](http://www.nmsu.edu/~ssd/)

NMSU policy prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation and protected veterans status. Furthermore, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination to include sexual misconduct, sexual violence, sexual harassment and retaliation. For more information on discrimination issues, Title IX or NMSU's complaint process contact:

Gerard Nevarez or Agustin Diaz  
Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) - O'Loughlin House  
Phone: 646.3635 E-mail: [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)  
Website: <http://www.nmsu.edu/~eeo/>