

MATH 254: Introduction to Differential Equations, Summer II, 2013

Professor/Lecturer: Dr. Ken McLaughlin **Office:** Math Tower, room 705
Phone: 621-4766 **Email:** mcl@email.arizona.edu

Textbook: *Fundamentals of Differential Equations (Custom UA Version)*, by Nagle, Saff, and Snider. This book has good explanations and examples, and also contains useful material on topics we don't have time to cover in this course. We will use the online homework system Webassign based on this text for automatic immediate assessment and feedback.

Lectures: Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 10:45, Psych 307.

Office hours: Professor McLaughlin's office hours will be on Tuesdays and Fridays, from 3:00pm to 4:00pm.

D2L site: A very minimal D2L site will provide secure access to exam grades. Homework performance will not be reported on the D2L site.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend every scheduled class and to be familiar with the University Class Attendance policy as it appears in the General Catalog. It is the student's responsibility to keep informed of any announcements, syllabus adjustments or policy changes made during scheduled classes, by email, or through D2L. Students are expected to behave in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and the Code of Academic Integrity. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. University policies can be found at <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/policiesandcodes>.

HOMEWORK, QUIZZES, EXAMS, GRADES

Homework: There will be online homework through WebAssign, worth a total of 75 points. Since Webassign calculates points its own way, your eventual webassign score will be a percentage of the available total. I will give you lots of opportunities to get full credit on webassign, but you do have to complete the assignments before the deadline – otherwise it takes off a LOT of points!

Quizzes: There will be 8-10 short quizzes given on Tuesdays and Fridays, worth a total of 75 points towards your final grade. The problems will be relatively short and elementary, provided you have mastered the previous material. Missed quizzes will count for zero points unless you have an approved absence, in which case we will average your other quizzes to assign a score to the missed quiz.

Exams: There will be three in-class exams, on Monday, July 15, Monday, July 22, and Wednesday, July 31. Each exam will be worth 100 points. Missed exams will count for zero points, unless a valid excuse is documented (as defined by official University policy), in which case the score for that exam will be replaced by the average of your other in-class exam scores.

In-class exams will be of 1 hour duration. There will be clear signals for beginning and ending the exam; continuing to write after the end is signaled is consider cheating (see Academic Integrity policy below).

Final Exam: The final exam will be Wednesday, August 7, and will be worth 200 points.

Course grade: All points from homework, quizzes, in-class exams, and the final exam, will be added together, and the result divided by the total possible. Final percentages above 90, 80, 70, or 60 guarantee letter grades of A, B, C, or D respectively. The interpretation of grades is as follows:

“A” = unusually high level of achievement, exceeding expectations in all required topics, able to apply techniques concepts creatively in unfamiliar situations.

“B” = good performance, competent in all required areas, confident with concepts and techniques in standard situations.

“C” = respectable performance, meets expectations in main areas, can use concepts and techniques in most situations.

“D” = passing performance, acquired basic concepts, can use concepts and techniques in simple situations.

“E” = failing, marginal command of concepts and techniques.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you anticipate issues related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with me to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in this course. If you determine that formal, disability related accommodations are necessary, it is very important that you be registered with Disability resources. You should notify me of your eligibility for reasonable accommodations by Tuesday, July 9.

CALCULATOR/COMPUTER POLICY

On exams and quizzes **NO CALCULATORS WILL BE PERMITTED!** On homework calculators may be used, and also spreadsheets and/or other software packages.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

For full information about the Code of Academic Integrity policies and procedures, including information about your rights and responsibilities as a student, see <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity> . I expect – and encourage – you to study in groups and take full advantage of opportunities to learn material from posted lecture notes, homework solutions etc. However, your work on quizzes and exams is expected to be your own, and all students will be given equal opportunity to be graded fairly. In particular, this means that continuing to work after the end of a quiz or exam has been announced is considered a violation of the code of academic integrity.

Instructions for WebAssign: To create an account for this class go to <http://webassign.net>, click on the Log-In button, then click on the I Have a Class Key button.

Our class key is arizona 0903 9416. You must do this even if you have used WebAssign in the past or are using it for another course this semester. There is a 14-day grace period (from the first day of classes) before you must purchase/ submit your access code for this class. Each time you log-in, you will see a reminder.

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion, and any changes will be announced in class and may not appear on the website.