Math 34600: Elements of Linear Algebra

T R 6:30 – 7:45 PM, NAC 4/113

Instructor: Prof. Shirshendu Chatterjee
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Grader: Arad Namin (namin.s.arad@gmail.com) will be the Grader for this course.

Office hours: Tuesdays 9 AM – 10 AM and Thursdays 5:30 – 6:30 PM

Text: *Linear Algebra and Its Applications*, Fifth edition, by Lay, Lay and McDonald. We will plan to cover selected sections of Chapters 1 – 5.

Topics: From the course description: "Vector spaces, basis and dimension, matrices, linear transformations, determinants, solution of systems of linear equations, eigenvalues, and eigenvectors."

Exams: There will be one Midterm Exam during the class period on March 21 and a Final Exam on May 21 (tentative) from 6 PM to 8:15 PM. Both exams will be held in the class. **No make-up exams** will be given except in serious circumstances with **a documented excuse**.

Homework: There will be weekly/biweekly written assignments. Assignments will be posted in Blackboard. Assignments will be due in class on Tuesdays. Working together on the assigned problems is OK, but you must each submit your own write-up in your own words. Do not copy your homework directly from a solution manual, the internet, another person's homework write-up, etc. You should show all work and justify all answers. **Late homework will not be accepted.**
Assignments will be graded partially on correctness and partially on completeness. All assigned problems will not be graded. From each assignment, few randomly chosen problems will be graded fully. Each problem will be graded out of 3 points. Additionally, there will be 4 points in each assignment to evaluate how many problems of the assignments have been solved. If one completes 25%, 50%, 75% or 100% of an assignment, one will get 1, 2, 3, and 4 points respectively.

Blackboard: I will be using Blackboard to disseminate homework assignments and announcements / reminders; please keep an eye on the class Blackboard page.

Grading: The breakdown of the course grade will be as follows:
Homework 25%; Midterm Exam 35%; Final Exam 40%. The lowest homework grade will be dropped. The weighted scores of 90%, 75% and 60% will correspond to letter grades A, B and C respectively. The boundaries between other grades will be based on relative performances.

Cell Phones: Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom. If you need to use one (for a personal emergency, etc.), please leave the room while using it. If there is some situation which requires you to be excused from this policy, please speak with me.

Academic Integrity: All students should be familiar with and obey the CUNY policy on academic misconduct: `https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/la/Academic_Integrity_Policy.pdf`

Advice: Attending class is very important; if you miss too many classes, it is very easy to fall behind. Taking notes and keeping up with readings will be helpful as well.

Doing problems is probably the best way to cement your understanding of the material. In particular, it is a very good idea to do more problems than just the assigned homework! I am glad to give you extra problems if you run out of problems in the book. Another good resource is the textbook "Elementary Linear Algebra, 10th Ed" by Howard Anton, John Wiley & Sons Publ.