

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Course Syllabus: Math 376 Differential Equations I
11:00AM - 11:50AM
MW / BOUILLON 106 – F / BOUILLON 103

Professor: Dr. Jane Whitmire
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Phone: 509-963-2268
Office: Bouillon 123
Office Hours: MW 1:00-1:50, TR 11:00-11:50 and by appointment
Textbook: A First Course in Differential Equations, The Classic 5th Ed.
Author: Dennis Zill
Prerequisites: Math 265 and Math 272

Course Description

This is a first course in Differential Equations, including such topics as separable variables, homogeneous equations, integrating factors, linear and higher order differential equations, and applications. Students will learn how to use analytic, graphical and numerical methods to investigate solutions of differential equations, as well as how to derive differential equations to describe phenomena in different sciences.

Calculators

Calculators may be used on homework, quizzes, and exams unless specifically announced otherwise in advance. When a calculator is used in solving a problem, it is the student's responsibility to correctly operate the calculator and to demonstrate an understanding of the solution by providing appropriate detail. For example, if asked to use integration by parts in finding the solution of a particular differential equation, it will be necessary to write down the appropriate substitutions, initial setup, and steps used within the procedure.

Students are responsible for:

- (1) taking notes in class;
- (2) at least 2 hours homework and review for each class hour (or however long is necessary for understanding);
- (3) keeping a grade log
- (4) checking posted answers (exams) within one week of the posting (when material is returned) and raising any questions about grading within that time;
- (5) all announcements made in class;
- (6) correctly reading, copying, and interpreting all assigned problems;
- (7) reading aligned textbook chapters and instructions before beginning assignments.

Homework

Homework will be traditional written assignments at the beginning of the quarter but may involve an increasing computer (*MATHEMATICA* or *Java Applets*) component as the term progresses. The professor reserves the right to refuse homework assignments that do not meet the following criteria.

Students may work with classmates on homework, but students should write solutions using their own words. Homework must be neat, legible, and contain complete sentences where appropriate. Borrowing someone else's work or lending your work to someone, is NOT permissible.

Homework is normally due the second class period after the assignment; otherwise, the due date will be specified with the assignment. Homework is due in class; otherwise, leave it in the office mailbox. Professor mailboxes are just inside the math library door - BOUILLON 107. The absolute deadline is 5:00 pm of the day due. The door is locked at 5:00 pm.

Late homework will not be accepted. It is essential to keep up in the course. Since accidents, car problems, court appearances, deer hunting season, illness, job interviews, oversleeping, overtime, tournaments, and weather happen, the lowest 2 homework grades will be dropped.

DO NOT email homework. DO NOT staple different assignments together. Make sure different assignments are separated. All homework will be completed in pencil, on one side of (preferably engineering) paper, and in numerical order.

Quizzes

Quizzes are given as a standard part of class and are not specifically announced. Each quiz normally covers the material of the preceding homework with some reference to earlier material. Changes in this procedure, such as the inclusion of a special topic, will always be announced in advance. Make-ups for quizzes will NOT be given. It is essential to keep up in the course. The lowest 2 quiz grades will be dropped.

Exams

Exam dates are Wednesday October 22, 2008 and Monday November 24, 2008. Exams are comprehensive and cover all material discussed in class since the previous exam. Completing the exam in the time allotted is part of the exam. Taking an exam is an important part of the course. Nevertheless, scheduling complications sometimes occur. An alternate procedure for taking an exam due to a scheduling complication must be arranged in advance. One such make-up will be allowed for each student. This policy will not be changed due to any circumstances. All make-up exams must be completed during office hours and within one week, before or after, the regularly scheduled exam.

Final Exam

The final MUST be taken to pass the course. The final is comprehensive, covers all material discussed in class, and is to be taken at the time scheduled by the University. Completing the final in the time allotted is part of the final. The final exam for Fall 2008 is Friday December 12, 2008 from 8 am to 10 am.

Grading

Everyone is graded the same way. NO EXCEPTIONS. Letter grades A/A-/B+/B/B-/C+/C/C-/D+/D/D-/F are based on a strict 93-100/90-92.9/87-89.9/83-86.9/80-82.9/77-79.9/73-76.9/70-72.9/67-69.9/63-66.9/60-62.9/BELOW 60 cutoff. Grades are not rounded either up or down. Problems are graded on a 10-point scale: (A) 9 or 10; (B) 8; (C) 7; (D) 6; (F) 0 to 5. Problems are graded by the clear and evident content of what is actually written down and nothing more. Your solution to a problem must clearly show a grasp of relevant concepts as well as a correct result for full credit. Organization counts. Neatness counts. If an approach is specified in a problem, then that approach must be used (as indicated by procedures written on the paper) in solving the problem. If no approach is specified, then any valid method is acceptable.

Keep all exams, homework, quizzes, and other graded material for study and for verifying records. The course grade can be calculated at any time using the following proportions:

Homework → 20%

Exams → 40%

Quizzes → 10%

Final → 30%

Special Needs Statement

As soon as possible, students with disabilities who wish to set up academic adjustments in this class should provide a copy of their "Confirmation of Eligibility for Academic Adjustments". Eligible students without this form should contact the Disability Support Services Office by visiting Bouillon 205, emailing dssrecept@cwu.edu, or calling the phone number 509-963-2171.