

MATH 376 Differential Equations I
Dr. Boersma
Fall 2013

Goals: This course will provide an introduction to differential equations – primarily focusing on first and second-order linear equations. The study of first-order equations will include qualitative analyses such as slope fields and phase lines (including bifurcations) and analytic techniques such as separation of variables, integrating factors, undetermined coefficients, and variation of parameters. We will cover chapters 1,2, and 3.

Office: Bouillon 107E, phone: 963-1395, email boersmas@cwu.edu. Office hours will be announced in class shortly. You may of course drop by anytime. If I'm not busy I'll be glad to talk with you.

Required

Materials **Text:** *A First Course in Differential Equations*, by J. David Logan (second edition).

Your Grade: Your final grade in this course will depend on one fifty-minute midterm, one final exam, several graded homework assignments, and your regular completion of Preparing for the Next Lesson (PNL) assignments.

Exams The midterm exam will be given in class, thus making attendance mandatory on this day. The midterm is scheduled for Friday October 25. If you anticipate a conflict, please see me at least one week **before** the date of the exam. The final exam is scheduled for **TUESDAY December 10th**, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. This time is scheduled by the registrar's office and cannot be changed!

PNL

Assignments In order to get the most out of every class day, I expect students to come to class prepared and ready to delve into the material. To help facilitate this, I will be assigning formal PNL (preparing for the next lesson) assignments most every day. They will often include a short reading assignment, some open response questions, and a section where you should rate how confident you feel you are at completing certain tasks. These assignments should be completed the evening before the next class. At the VERY LATEST you need to record your responses at least two hours before class begins. These assignments CAN NOT be completed for credit after the original due date. Even if you can not make it to class, it is expected that you keep up with these frequent assignments.

These PNL assignments will be completed via the online homework system *WeBWork*. Please perform the following steps as soon as possible:

1. Visit <http://webwork.math.cwu.edu/webwork2/Math376Boersma/>
2. Logon using your student ID# as both your username and password.

3. Feel free to change your password using the **Password/Email** link on the Main Menu.
4. Select **Homework Sets** from the Menu to see current PNL assignments.
5. Complete PNL1 before the next class.

Graded

Homework Every week or so I will assign a few problems to be turned in and graded. Please take advantage of this opportunity to show me what you have learned in this course! These are your chances to show me the best work you are capable of. Please hand in complete solutions to all problems I assign. All turned in homework should be neat and all steps and conclusions should be clearly explained. I will make it very clear when homework is to be handed in for a grade.

Homework There will also be **daily** homework assignments from the textbook. It is **your responsibility** to keep up with these assignments. Although these problems will not be collected or graded, they will provide you with a variety of practice before attempting the graded homework problems.

Attendance I will assume that everyone attends every class meeting. If you happen to miss a day, be advised that you are still responsible for any assignments that were given or turned in. Feel free to come by my office to discuss the day's activities that you may have missed.

Final Grades: As mentioned in part above, your final grade will depend on

Graded Homework	100 pts.
PNL Assignments	40 pts.
One Midterm	100 pts.
Final Exam	100 pts.
TOTAL	340 pts.

While I reserve the right to “curve” final grades as I deem appropriate, your grade will be no lower than:

A :340– 314	C+:269– 260
A–: 313– 304	C :259– 246
B+:303– 294	C–:245– 236
B :293– 280	D+:235– 226
B–: 279– 270	D :225– 212
	D– : 211– 202

Students who have special needs or disabilities that may affect their ability to access information or material presented in this course are encouraged to contact me or the Center for Disability Services.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Midterm: October 25

Final: December 10