

Course Information

Instructor: Warren Weckesser
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Office: 314 McGregory
Phone: 228-7228

Office Hours: Tuesday & Wednesday: 2:00–3:30 PM
Thursday: 8:30–11:00 AM, 2:00–3:30 PM
Other times by appointment, or just drop by to see if I'm available.

Lecture: MWF, 9:20AM - 10:10AM, 215 McGregory

Text: *Differential Equations (second edition)*, by Blanchard, Devaney and Hall
We will cover at least Chapters 1-5 (but we may skip a few sections).
We will also cover some topics that are not covered in the text.
Handouts will be provided for this material.

Web Page: <http://math.colgate.edu/~weckesser/math308/>

Homework:

Homework will be assigned and collected each week. Collaboration with your classmates on the homework is allowed, expected, and even encouraged. However, collaboration does not mean copying someone else's answers. It means working together so that everyone understands the problems and can write their own solutions. You must write your own solutions in your own words.

Some homework assignments will involve using computer software packages, including Maple. I will schedule sessions in the computer lab where we will learn how to use the software.

Exams:

There will be two evening exams during the semester, and a final exam during the final exam week. Consult the final exam schedule before making travel plans for the end of the semester, as the date and time of the final exam can not be altered. The dates and times of the midterm exams are:

Exam 1 Tuesday, October 8 7-9 PM in **209 Lathrop**
Exam 2 Tuesday, November 12 7-9 PM in **209 Lathrop**

Let me know immediately if you have an unavoidable conflict with one of the above times, so we can schedule an earlier time for the exam.

Grading:

Your grade will be based on the following:

Homework 20%
Exam 1 25%
Exam 2 25%
Final Exam 30%

Your grade for the course will be determined by computing your numerical grade with the above percentages, rounding to one decimal place, and then converting that number to a letter grade. The actual cutoff points will depend on my overall impression of the performance of the class on the homework and exams. However, I will not set the cutoffs any stricter than the following:

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|-----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|----|----------|---|
| 100 - 97 | A+ | 87 - 89.9 | B+ | 77 - 79.9 | C+ | 67 - 69.9 | D+ | 0 - 59.9 | F |
| 93 - 96.9 | A | 83 - 86.9 | B | 73 - 76.9 | C | 63 - 66.9 | D | | |
| 90 - 92.9 | A- | 80 - 82.9 | B- | 70 - 72.9 | C- | 60 - 62.9 | D- | | |