

Course Information

Instructor: Warren Weckesser **Office:** 314 McGregory
Email: wweckesser@mail.colgate.edu **Phone:** 228-7228

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday 9:00-10:15 AM, 1:20-3:00 PM
 Other times by appointment, or just drop by to see if I'm available.

Lecture: MWF, 12:20 - 1:10, 201F McGregory

Text: *Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems (7th ed.)*
 by Boyce and DiPrima

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

Exercises:

Exercises from the text will be assigned each week. These exercises are designed to help you learn the material, so it is essential that you do all the problems carefully. The exercises will not be collected, and they will not be part of your grade.

Homework:

There will be five or six significant sets of homework problems (roughly every two weeks). These will allow you to apply the material covered in class (and practiced in the exercises) to significant, nontrivial applications in mathematics, physics, biology, economics, and other areas.

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 Thursday, October 9 7 PM
 Exam 2 Thursday, November 13 7 PM

The room will be announced in class. 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:

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-		

Maple:

Maple is a software package with the capabilities for doing symbolic mathematics. We will learn how to use Maple to analyze differential equations.