

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS 11:00-11:50AM SPRING 2016 SH306

- Instructor: Jonathan White
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- Web Page: <http://public.coe.edu/~jwhite/>
- Office: Stuart 316
- Office Hours: 10:00-10:50am MWF and by appointment
- Office Phone: 399-8280
- Home Phone: 362-3350 (between 7am and 10pm)
- Text: *Differential Equations*, 2nd Edition, Blanchard, Devaney, and Hall
- Problem Sets and Labs: There will be occasional problem sets, WeBWorK assignments, and lab projects, and together these will total 200 points.
- Math Culture: Up to 50 Math Culture Points may be earned by participating in various activities outside of class, as detailed on page 3 of this syllabus.
- Exams: There will be three in-class exams administered during class time. The dates of these are indicated in the schedule on the back side of this sheet. These exams will be worth 100 points each. The final exam will be held during finals week at the date and time indicated on the back side of this sheet. The final will be worth 200 points.
- Grading: Grading will approximately follow a [92.0%, +∞) → A, [90%, 92%) → A-, [87%, 90%) → B+, [82%, 87%) → B, [80%, 82%) → B-, [77%, 80%) → C+, [72%, 77%) → C, [70%, 72%) → C-, [67%, 70%) → D+, [62%, 67%) → D, [60%, 62%) → D-, (-∞, 60%) → F scale.
- Makeups: For fairness to those who follow the schedule, makeups for exams will be allowed only in extenuating circumstances, with documentation and advance notice when humanly possible. Late problem sets will be penalized 20% of points possible for each day late, and only accepted until others are returned.

This class is intended to give a solid modern introduction to differential equations. This means that graphical and numerical approaches will be taken as seriously as conventional analytic methods, and that qualitative statements will be as important as quantitative solutions.

The use of technology, particularly computer software, will be an important component of the course. Ability to compute with pencil and paper will also be important, as will conceptual understanding of the topics treated. This combination of approaches is likely to prove challenging, partly because few people will find that all of these aspects play to personal strengths. Don't let that be overwhelming, though, and remember that I'm around to help. Give it some time, and feel free to take advantage of my office hours to help past the rough spots.

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Tentative Schedule

1/11 §1.1 Modeling via Diff. Equations	1/13 §1.2 Separation of Variables	1/15 §1.3 Slope Fields
1/18 No Class – MLK Day	1/20 §1.4 Euler’s Method	1/22 §1.5 Existence and Uniqueness
1/25 §1.6 Equilibria & the Phase Plane	1/27 §1.7 Bifurcations	1/29 §1.8 Linear Differential Equations
2/1 §1.9 Changing Variables	2/3 Undetermined Coefficients	2/5 Lab
2/8 Series Solutions	2/10 Review	2/12 Exam 1
2/15 §2.1 Modeling via Systems	2/17 §2.2 The Geometry of Systems	2/19 §2.3 Analytic Methods
2/22 §2.3 Analytic Methods	2/24 §2.4 Euler’s Method for Systems	2/26 Lab
2/29 §2.5 The Lorenz Equations	3/2 Review	3/4 Exam 2
No Class – Spring break		
3/14 §3.1 Linear Systems	3/16 3.2 Straight-Line Solutions	3/18 §3.3 Real Eigenvalues
3/21 §3.4 Complex Eigenvalues	3/23 §3.5 Repeated and Zero Eigenvalues	3/25 §3.7 The Trace-Determinant Plane
3/28 §3.6 2 nd -Order Linear Equations	3/30 §3.8 Linear Systems in 3D	4/1 Lab
4/4 Variation of Parameters	4/6 Review	4/8 Exam 3
4/11 §4.1 Forced Harmonic Oscillators	4/13 §4.2 Sinusoidal Forcing	4/15 §4.3 Undamped Forcing
4/18 §5.1 Equilibrium Point Analysis	4/20 §6.1 Laplace Transforms	4/22 §6.1 Laplace Transforms
4/25 §6.2 Discontinuous Functions	4/27 Review	
Final Exam – 11am on Friday 4/29		

Any students with disabilities which might affect their performance in this class should contact me as soon as possible to arrange accommodations.

Coe’s faculty has adopted an academic integrity policy. It is your responsibility to understand and follow it.

FERPA information can be found on page 42 of the 2015-2016 catalog.

Diversity, in all its forms, is valuable.

Math Culture Points

A portion of the grade for this course will take the form of Math Culture Points. These will be earned through activities outside of class including, but not necessarily limited to, those listed below. Note that none of these are mandatory – there are far more opportunities than necessary to earn full credit. You should be able to select activities that are particularly relevant to you.

Activity	Points	Max #
Colloquium Attendance	5	–
Colloquium Presentation	5-15	2
Meeting Attendance		2
Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics (January 29 - 31)	15	
SIGCSE Technical Symposium (March 2 - 5)	15	
University of Iowa Computing Conference (February or March?)	15	
Midwest Undergraduate Mathematics Symposium (April?)	15	
Mathematics Competition Participation		2
Mathematical Contest in Modeling (February 5 – February 9)	15	
Iowa Collegiate Mathematics Competition (February 21)	15	
Hack-a-thon (February 19-21, register by February 9)	15	
Math Culture Reading		
Some weeks specific readings will be posted on the course web page	5	–
Articles from Math Horizons	5	3
With approval, articles from <i>Math. Magazine</i> , <i>The College Math. Journal</i> , etc.	5	3
Math Club Activities (when appropriate)	5-10	5
Winter Break Book, Movies, Pi Day celebration, Speakers, Workshops, etc.		
Other Appropriate Coe or Outreach Activities		
Contemporary Issues Forum (February 3)	5	–
Attending a Quantitative Research Symposium Presentation	5	3
Chess Club Meeting	5	2
Job Shadowing in any relevant field	10	1
Other Volunteer Outreach (see page 4)	5	3

You should plan to spread your participation throughout the semester. In each case above, credit assumes both full participation and posting a brief summary/response on Moodle **in a timely manner**. These reflections should generally be between 100 and 300 words, and include both a brief summary and your personal thoughts on the event, and **must be submitted within one week of the event**, or within the specified time window for other activities. Up to three units of credit may be submitted after normal deadlines in the “Math Culture – Late” category on Moodle, but otherwise exceptions will not be made without serious extenuating circumstances.

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Volunteer Math Outreach

Below is a preliminary list of organizations that have need for help with math tutoring and related activities. To learn more, contact Kayla Lyftogt (klyftogt@coe.edu). This list is not meant to be exhaustive, but gives you at least some idea of possibilities. If you have other ideas, talk to Jon.

McKinley Middle School

Volunteer Opportunity: Help an 8th Grade Pre-Algebra teacher by working individually with kids that are struggling/behind

Various Times Throughout Day

Garfield Elementary

Volunteer Opportunity: Assist Teachers by working individually with students that are struggling/behind

Various Times Throughout Day

Boys and Girls Club

Volunteer Opportunity: Assist with Math Homework on a case-by case basis (wider range of age groups)

After School Program

Kids on Course

Work Opportunity: Commit to tutoring two days a week at a local elementary. T/R 3:45-5:15. Some experience with youth preferred. Up to two hours of prep time paid in addition to hours spent tutoring.

Payment: \$33/hour.