MATH 320 (Linear Algebra) - SPRING 2009


Instructor: Dwight Bean
Telephone: x4020
Fax: x4293

Office: Serra 159D
E-mail: dbean@sandiego.edu
Website: www.sandiego.edu/~dbean

Office hours: weekdays 12:15-3:30; or when door is open (call first if you prefer) or by appointment

Prerequisite: Math 151 or consent of instructor; Math 160 recommended

Requirement: This course is required for the math major and recommended for the math minor.

Course Content: Systems of linear equations; matrix algebra; vector spaces; orthogonality; linear transformations; eigenvalues and eigenvectors; applications

Reading is essential in this course. Read slowly for understanding with pencil and paper in hand to take notes and fill in missing steps.

Homework is also essential. The problems require clear thinking and perseverance. Get Socratic help from me or a classmate if you are really stuck, but DO NOT copy someone else's work. About one-third of the class time will be devoted to presentations of homework problems by you and your classmates. Homework will also be collected after these presentations. Presentations and written homework will count about 100 points in all. Late homework won't be accepted. Arrange for homework to be delivered, or e-mailed or faxed if necessary to make sure it is turned in on time. Doing homework and participating in class are the keys to success in this course.

Tests: There will be 3 tests worth about 100 points each and a comprehensive final exam worth 200 points. Make-up tests will not be given. The final exam will count more heavily to make up for a missing test score.

Grading: The average of all scores will be used to compute your grade (90, 80, 70, 60 cutoffs or the math department curve of about one quarter A's and one quarter B's if percentage grading proves to be unfair).

Cheating is in violation of USD's academic integrity policy. Don't do it. It is unethical and penalties for violations are severe.