

Course Information

Math 3430–001

Fall 2006

September 6, 2006

Instructor: Prof. Lance D. Drager. Office: Math 236. Office Phone: 742–2580, Ext. 242. If you let the office phone ring long enough, you'll get me or a voice mail system you can leave a message on. My e-mail address is lance.drager@ttu.edu.

Course materials may sometimes be posted on my web page, which is <http://www.math.ttu.edu/~drager>.

Office Hours: MWF 10:00–11:00, 3:00–4:00. I am often in my office at other times in the afternoon. You can come by outside of formal office hours; I'll usually have time to talk to you. Please feel free to come by if you need help.

Text: Gary A. Harris, **From Arithmetic through Linear Algebra: A Workbook Approach**. The text is available on the course website at webct.tlhc.ttu.edu.

Learning Outcomes: Students reinforce their knowledge of concepts from arithmetic, algebra, number theory, calculus, and linear algebra, and learn how to use the program MAPLE to study and demonstrate these concepts. Students will become familiar with the general capabilities of a CAS, and obtain experience employing these capabilities to solve mathematical problems in the context of MAPLE. In order to communicate with the program students obviously will have to use the appropriate syntax; however, learning MAPLE syntax is never to be considered the main objective.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes: The assessment of student's mastery of the skills and concepts as specified in the expected learning outcomes will occur, with appropriate course grades assigned, as follows:

1. Worksheets. These are group projects. All worksheets must be completed to the satisfaction of the instructor for the student to pass the course.
2. Practice Quizzes. These are also group projects. There will be eight practice quizzes, of which the lowest three will be dropped. The remaining 5 practices quizzes will each count 20 points towards the final grade.

3. Exams. There will be three exams, which students will work on individually. Each will count 100 points towards the final grade.
4. Final Exam. Taken individually. This will count 200 points towards the final grade.

Thus, the graded material will add up to 600 points. The letter grades will be based on the usual 90%, 80%, 70%, 60% scale. The grade cutoffs may go somewhat lower, depending on the the distribution of the final scores.

Final Exam: The final is Monday, December 11, from 7:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. It will be given in our usual classroom.

Formative Assessment: Continuous formative assessment of the progress of the course will occur via ongoing communication between the instructor and the students. To this end, all students are encouraged to ask questions during class and to seek the instructor's help out of class when needed. Other activities in support of student-instructor communication will include: practice exams and quizzes, review of homework, and personal interviews with students doing poorly on work assigned at the beginning of the course.

Participation: All worksheets and practice quizzes will be cooperative efforts with 2-3 students per team; however, only students who are actively participating during class and lab time will receive credit for the work. Each student will be expected to carry his or her share of the load. Any student missing work, will be individually responsible for making up that work out of class/lab.

Remember, you are responsible for all material covered in class and all announcements made in class. If you have to miss a class, you should check with me or a classmate to see what happened.

Identification: You should be prepared to show your Texas Tech picture ID at any quiz or exam.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appropriate verification from Student Disability Services during the instructors office hours. Please note instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodations to a student until appropriate verification from Student Disability Services has been provided. For additional information, you may contact the Student Disability Services office at 335 West Hall or 806-742-2405.

Religious Holy Days: Texas House Bill 256 requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. Th student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused. NO prior notification of the instructor is required. See <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/officalpublications/catalog/AcademicsRegulations.html>

Academic Misconduct: It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity.

The attempt of students to present as their own work any work that they have not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

For more information, and a description of what is considered to be misconduct, see <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/officalpublications/catalog/AcademicsRegulations.html>

Civility in the Classroom: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction. Inappropriate behavior in the classroom shall result, minimally, in a request to leave class.

For more information, see <http://www.studentaffairs.ttu.edu/vpsa/publications/civility.htm>