Instructor
Giorgio Bornia, Assistant Professor
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Office hours: T 02:00pm-03:00pm, W 02:00pm-03:50pm, or by appointment.
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Weekly meeting
TR 09:30am-10:50pm, room Math 108

Course general description
This special topics course focuses on finite element methods for the numerical solution of partial differential equations.
Prerequisites: MATH 5334-5335, or consent of department.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes
Students will learn the basic notions underlying the formulation of finite element discretizations of partial differential
equations; they will analyze finite element approximations and their theoretical convergence properties; they will under-
stand the connection between theoretical statements and their computer implementation.

Tentative course outline
Basic Concepts (Chap. 0)
Sobolev Spaces (Chap. 1)
Variational Formulation of Elliptic Boundary Value Problems (Chap. 2)
The Construction of a Finite Element Space (Chap. 3)
Polynomial Approximation Theory in Sobolev Spaces (Chap. 4)
n-Dimensional Variational Problems (Chap. 5)

Assessment of Learning Outcomes
The exam consists in the discussion of an individual project.

TTU Operating Policies
Americans with Disabilities Act (TTU OP 34.22)
Any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements
should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make any necessary arrangements. Students should present appro-
priate verification from Student Disability Services, during the instructor’s office hours. Please note instructors are not
allowed to provide classroom accommodations to 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.

Absence for observance of a religious holy day (TTU OP 34.19)
1. “Religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property
taxation under Texas Tax Code 11.20. 2. A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that
intention known to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a
religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a
reasonable time after the absence. 3. A student who is excused under Section 2 may not be penalized for the absence;
however, the instructor may respond appropriately if the student fails to complete the assignment satisfactorily.
Academic Honesty (TTU OP 34.12)

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension. “Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but it not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

The grade of “I” (TTU OP 34.12)

The grade of “I” is given only when a student’s work is satisfactory but, due to reasons beyond his or her control, cannot be completed. It is not given in lieu of an “F” or “W”. The instructor assigning the grade will stipulate in writing at the time the grade is given the conditions under which the “I” may be removed. The assigned work and a change of grade must be recorded within one calendar year from the date of the “I”. Failure to do so results in an “F” for that course.