

MATH 313: LINEAR ALGEBRA COURSE INFORMATION

1. WHERE AND WHEN

Place: Gillet Hall, Room 205

Time: Monday and Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.

2. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Prof. M. Nathanson

Office: Gillet Hall, Room 101C

Email: melvyn.nathanson@lehman.cuny.edu

Telephone: 718-960-8860

Office hours: Monday: 10:40 - 11:00 a.m., 12:40 - 1:00 p.m., 2:40 - 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 10:40 - 11:00 a.m., 12:40 - 1:20 p.m., 2:40 - 3:30 p.m.

3. SYLLABUS

This course is an introduction to vector spaces and linear transformations. Students are required to learn the material presented in class and the lecture notes posted on Blackboard. The goal is to understand the concepts and theorems in linear algebra, to solve problems, and to be able to write correct and coherent proofs of elementary propositions. Students are expected to do correct calculations with vectors, matrices, determinants, and linear equations.

Students must be able to log onto Blackboard and to read and download the material that is posted there. Students must also be able to read email messages sent to their Lehman email accounts via Blackboard.

4. GRADING

There will be weekly homework assignments. Homework must be submitted at the beginning of each Monday class.

There will be occasional unannounced quizzes. There are no “make-up” quizzes.

The grading system is as follows:

Midterm exam 1: 25 %

Midterm exam 2: 25 %

Final exam: 50 %

5. TEXTBOOKS

The primary textbook consists of lecture notes that are posted on the Blackboard website, and can be downloaded and printed.

Recommended inexpensive texts, all available in paperback, are the following (not required):

Title: Linear Algebra
Author: Seymour Lipschutz and Marc Lipson
Publisher: Schaum's Outlines, McGraw Hill
Note: Elementary book with many worked problems.

Title: Lectures on Linear Algebra
Author: I. M. Gel'fand
Publisher: Dover Publications
Note: A sophisticated text by a great mathematician.

Title: Linear Algebra
Author: Kenneth Hoffman and Ray Kunze
Publisher: Prentice Hall
Note: Excellent introductory text that covers everything in this course and much more.