

Math 115A - Winter 2020: Syllabus

Noah White

Location and time

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 8-8:50am, MS 5147

Discussion: Tuesday, Thursday 8-8:50am, MS 5147

Instructor and TAs

Instructor Noah White (noah@math.ucla.edu)

TA Louis Esser (esserl@math.ucla.edu)

Textbook

Linear Algebra, by S. Friedberg, et al.

Problem sets, homework, and quizzes

There will be a problem set assigned every week. These will not be collected however it is strongly recommended that you complete them.

In weeks 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9 there will be a short quiz will be conducted. In weeks where no quiz takes place (2, 6, 8, 10), a selection of questions from the problem set will be assigned as homework to be collected on the Friday as indicated in the tentative schedule below.

Collection of, and late homework

Homework will be collected using Gradescope. Late homework will not be accepted.

Collaboration on homework

Collaboration in small groups (< 5 people) on homework is encouraged! All homework must be written up individually in your own words, i.e. you are allowed to share and discuss ideas and methods for solving the homework questions but the presentation of your solution must be your own, you may not copy someone else's solution word for word. All collaborators must be acknowledged at the top of your homework, e.g. *"For this assignment I collaborated with:*

Humphrey B. Bear, Blinky Bill and Ferry Boat Fred”.

Failure to adhere to these rules for collaboration will be treated as academic dishonesty/cheating.

Exams

There will be two midterms and a final exam. These will be take home exams, with some portion of the exam being time limited (e.g. available for 24 hours but once you start you will have a certain amount of time to complete it). The date and time of each exam is not flexible and there will be no make-up exams.

Midterm 1: Wednesday, 22 April 2020

Midterm 2: Saturday/Sunday, 16/17 May 2020

Final Exam: 7-9 June 2020

Format: The midterms and the Final will be take home exams, with some component being time limited (accommodations will be available for varying timezones).

Exam conduct: Exams will be open book and you will be able to use resources you find on the internet. I aim to not make restrictions that I cannot enforce. Here are some things that I can and will enforce: solutions must be presented using your own words, copying your working from any source will not be tolerated, posting exam questions to third party websites is not allowed. Note that many of these websites work actively with universities of cases of academic dishonesty. Exams will be graded based on your working rather than the numerical/symbolic answers.

Questions about grades

If you have a question about the grade assigned to one of your homework assignments, quizzes or exams please make the instructor aware of your query as soon as possible. Grades will only be able to be changed within 14 days of when the piece of work was handed back, or in the case of exams, 14 days from the date of the exam.

Grading

Your final grade will be calculated using the maximum of the following two grading schemes.

$30\% \text{ (best 5 quiz scores)} + 20\% \text{ (homework scores)} + 30\% \text{ (combined midterms)} + 20\% \text{ (final)}$

or

$30\% \text{ (best 5 quiz scores)} + 20\% \text{ (homework scores)} + 15\% \text{ (best midterm)} + 35\% \text{ (final)}$

Discrimination

Title IX prohibits gender discrimination, including sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Students who have experienced sexual harassment or sexual violence can receive confidential support and advocacy at the CARE Advocacy Office for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, 1st Floor Wooden Center West, CAREadvocate@caps.ucla.edu, (310) 206-2465. You can also report sexual violence or sexual harassment directly to the University's Title IX Coordinator, Kathleen Salvaty, 2241 Murphy Hall, titleix@conet.ucla.edu, (310) 206-3417.