

MATH 2233.003—Differential Equations—Spring, 2011

MWF 1:30-2:20 PM, ES 212

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Office Hours: MWF 2:30–3:20 PM, or by appointment

Online Classroom (Desire to Learn, “D2L”): <https://oc.okstate.edu>

Check this site for announcements, updates, homework assignments, and other material.

Text: *Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems, Ninth Edition*, by William E. Boyce and Richard C. DiPrima. We will cover selected sections of chapters 1–6.

Quizzes and Homework: Several times during the semester a quiz (closed book and closed notes, unless otherwise indicated) will be given. Homework will be assigned, but it will not be collected or graded. Nevertheless, it is extremely important that you work on the homework problems; the quizzes and exams will include similar problems. Quizzes will be announced in class and on the D2L Course Homepage. The list of homework problems will be posted on D2L under Content.

Exams: There will be three fifty-minute examinations. They will be announced in class and on D2L. A comprehensive final examination will be administered from 2:00 to 3:50 PM on Wednesday, May 4. Unless otherwise indicated, exams will be closed book, closed notes.

Grading: Each 50-minute exam is graded on a 100 point scale and counts 20% of your total course score. The final is graded on a 200 point scale and counts 30% of your total score. There is no curving of exam scores.

The individual quizzes may be graded on different point scales. At the end of the semester your total quiz score will be adjusted to a 100 point scale as follows. A certain number of quiz points will be dropped from the maximum possible number of points to obtain a certain “perfect score”. For example, suppose that there were six quizzes and that their individual point scales were 25, 20, 30, 25, 30, and 20. Then the maximum possible number of quiz points would be $25+20+30+25+30+20=150$. If 30 points were dropped, then the “perfect score” would be 120. You would then be assigned the percentage (up to 100) of this “perfect score” that you have earned. Continuing with our example, if your scores were 20, 0, 10, 25, 20, and 15 you would have $20+0+10+25+20+15=90$ quiz points. Then your total quiz percentage would be 75 (90 out of 120) instead of 60 (90 out of 150). If, in this example, you earned 120 or more quiz points then you would receive the maximum of 100. The number you are assigned will then count 10% of your total course score.

The following formula will give you a total course score which is some number out of 1000.

$$\text{TOTAL} = 2(\text{EXAM 1} + \text{EXAM 2} + \text{EXAM 3}) + (1.5)\text{FINAL} + \text{QUIZ\%}$$

If you make at least the following total score, you will make at least the indicated letter grade. (Depending on the distribution of scores, it is possible that lower cutoffs may be used.)

900 points–A, 800 points–B, 700 points–C, 600 points–D

Partial Credit: On quizzes there will be very little, if any, partial credit. On exams the amount of partial credit will depend primarily on how much of a problem you do correctly. On both quizzes and exams it is extremely important that you write down all of the steps involved in getting your final answer, not just the final answer by itself, in order to ensure credit. In general, once you make a mistake or deviate from the method required on that problem you will receive no credit on the rest of the problem.

Online Material: The Online Classroom site for this course will contain general information and announcements, quiz and exam keys, review sheets, and possibly other material, such as notes and exercises on supplemental topics and links to differential equations resources on the Web.

MLRC: The Mathematics Learning Resource Center, located on the fourth floor of the Classroom Building, provides several services which may be useful to you. In particular it provides tutoring for this course. Tutoring will be available at certain specified times which will be announced later. The MLRC computers have mathematical software, such as Maple, which can be used to carry out lengthy algebra and calculus computations as well as to solve various differential equations problems. Maple is also available in various computer labs on campus. You are not required to use such software, but I urge you to familiarize yourself with it. In particular, it is an excellent way to check your homework. The MLRC phone number is 744-5818. The website is at <http://www.math.okstate.edu/mlrc>.

Electronic Device Usage: Unless otherwise indicated the use of calculators, computers, cell phones, or other electronic devices will be not be permitted during quizzes and exams.

Makeups: The procedure described earlier of dropping a certain number of quiz points to obtain a “perfect score” is the official mechanism for dealing with missed quizzes. Therefore, there will be no makeups for missed quizzes, no matter what the reason why the quizzes were missed.

Makeups for exams will be given only for serious and unavoidable reasons. You should try if at all possible to contact me before the regularly scheduled exam time. These makeup exams may be somewhat harder than the original exams.

OSU Syllabus Attachment: <http://osu.okstate.edu/acadaffr/aa/syllabusattachment-Spr.htm>

This contains further information on such things as drop dates, incomplete grades, special accommodations for students with disabilities, academic integrity, and general university policies.