
Course overview: The goal of this course is to give an introduction to the concepts and methods of Linear Algebra. We will first introduce the notion of matrices and the method of Gaussian elimination. We will then proceed to the study of vector spaces, linear transformations and bases of vector spaces. The course will conclude with the introduction of eigenvalues, the diagonalization of symmetric matrices and the Jordan normal form theorem.

Homework: Homework will be due every week on Friday and returned the following week. Homework assignments are not pledged. You are encouraged to discuss homework with other students, but you have to hand in your own individual written homework. Late homework will not be accepted.

If there’s a problem for which you would like to see a solution, then please contact Landon (landon@math.rice.edu).

Exams: There will be two midterms, the first one in the last week of September, the second one in the first week of November. The final exam is not scheduled yet, but will most likely be scheduled. If you have a legitimate schedule conflict with an exam let me know as early as possible, so that we can make alternative arrangements.

Grades: The homework will count as 10% towards the final grade. For the homework 80% will count as full credit. The midterms count 25% each, and the final exam counts 40%.

Help: If you have any questions don’t hesitate to ask me or to come to my office hours. Alternatively, you can ask Landon Jennings, the graduate student TA. His office hours are Wednesday 3:00–4:00 and Thursday 5:00–6:00 or by appointment.

Students with documented disability: Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or accommodations is requested to speak with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Students with disabilities will need to also contact Disability Support Services in the Ley Student Center.