

## MATH 344 Fall 2021 (Syllabus)

### Meeting Information:

Classroom Location: Petigru College 217

Days and Times: TTH 02:50PM–04:05PM

### Instructor Information

Xinfeng Liu

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Phone: 576-5849

Office Location: Coliseum 1020B

Office Hours: TTH 10:00AM–11:30AM or by appointment

Course Homepage: [Link](#)

### Textbook

Introduction to Linear Algebra, 5th Edition, by Gilbert Strang.

### Prerequisite

A grade C or better in Math 142.

### Subject Materials

This course will cover the materials presented in Chapters 1-6 of the text.

### Important Dates

The deadline to drop the course without a W being recorded is Wednesday, August 25.

The deadline to drop the course without a WF being recorded is Wednesday, November 3.

### Homework and Quizzes

Homework will be assigned for each section, and will not be collected, but you are supposed to do them all. REMEMBER: the more problems you do, the better you understand the material. Students are encouraged to work independently on homework sets. There will be approximately one quiz per week in Thursday's class, and no quiz during the exam weeks. There are two to four short questions in one quiz. The quiz problems will be either the same as, or very similar to those from the homework. Thus, if a student has made a good attempt at the homework, he/she should do well on the quiz. one lowest quiz grade will be dropped from the final grade calculation.

### Exams

There will be two midterm exams and a comprehensive final exam. The exams are "closed book": no books, no notes, no calculators, no laptop computer or equivalent technology, etc. There are no early exams. A late

exam is only possible for a written legitimate documented reason. Note that student athletes, participating in a USC athletic event and with appropriate documentation, are exempt from this rule. You must take your exams with the lecture for which you are registered.

### **Grades**

**Quizzes (20%)**

**Exam 1 (25%): Thursday, Sept. 23 (2:50PM-4:05PM)**

**Exam 2 (25%): Thursday, Nov. 11 (2:50PM-4:05PM)**

**Final (30%): Thursday, Dec. 9 (4:00PM-5:30PM)**

### **Reading**

Reading the textbook **in advance** of the lecture is strongly encouraged. Benefits of this preparation include obtaining a familiarity with the terminology and concepts that will be encountered (so you can distinguish major points from side issues), being able to formulate questions about the parts of the presentation that you do not understand, and having a chance to review the skills and techniques that will be needed to apply the new concepts.

### **Learning Outcome**

Students who successfully complete Math 344 are expected to master fundamental concepts in linear algebra, such as vectors, subspaces, determinants, eigenvalues and eigenvectors of matrices, etc. and utilize these concepts and methodology learned from this course to solve problems in context.

### **Cell Phone and Computer Policy**

Please remember to turn off or silence your cell phone prior to class. No texting allowed during class. Computers can only be used to make notes during class, and playing computer games during class is not tolerated.

### **Graduate Credit**

Students taking Math 344 for graduate credit will have additional or some different questions on tests.

### **Attendance**

In brief, I will provide make-up course work including content and assignments when students have excused absences which include (but are not limited to) being in quarantine or isolation, religious holidays, medical conditions related to pregnancy, and military duty. However, **recorded classes and hybrid/online options are not required and should not be expected.**

COVID-19 related absences must be documented through the **Student Ombudsman**. Students who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or have

been exposed and require quarantining should complete the **COVID-19 Student Report Form** and instructors should request this form in order to excuse the absence.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Cheating and plagiarism in any form is not tolerated. If a student is caught cheating, I will follow the guidelines as set forth in the USC Honor Code and other University guidelines.