

MATH 420 Sec. 004

Instructor: Lechao Xiao

Lecture: MWF 2-3pm, Room: DRL 4C2

Office: 3N4C

Email: xle@math.upenn.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday 3-4pm or by appointment.

Textbook: *Differential Equations by Blanchard, Devaney, and Hall, 4th edition.*

Course Description: After a rapid review of the basic techniques for solving equations, the course will discuss one or more of the following topics: stability of linear and nonlinear systems, boundary value problems and orthogonal functions, numerical techniques, Laplace transform methods.

Prerequisites: Math 240 or permission of the instructor.

Grading policy:

OPTION 1: You choose not to write a paper.

20% homework+ 20% quizzes+ 25% midterm+ 30% final+ 5% participation

OPTION 2: You choose to write a short 5-10 page paper relating the course material to a problem in your area of interest, and give a short presentation to the class.

20% midterm+ 25% final+ 20% quizzes+ 20% homework+ 5% participation+10% paper

Homework: Handed in weekly at the beginning of lecture on Wednesday. It will be graded for completeness. The first one will be due on Monday Sep. 10th. We will not accept late homework, but I will drop everybody's lowest written homework score.

Quizzes: There will be a quiz approximately after each chapter for a total of about 4-5 quizzes. If you know you will miss a quiz and let me know in advance you can reschedule it.

Exams: There will be an in-class midterm exam and a final. You are allowed to bring one 8.5 by 11 sheet of paper to the exams. No calculators!

Students with Disabilities: Please dont hesitate in contacting SDS:

<http://www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc/sds/>.

Code of Academic Integrity : The following is from the Universitys website on academic integrity "Since the University is an academic community, its fundamental purpose is the pursuit of knowledge. Essential to the success of this educational mission is a commitment to the principles of academic integrity. Every member of the University community is responsible for upholding the highest standards of honesty at all times. Students, as members of the community, are also responsible for adhering to the principles and spirit of the following Code of Academic Integrity found here http://www.upenn.edu/academicintegrity/ai_codeofacademicintegrity.html If a student is unsure whether his action(s) constitute a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity, then it is that students responsibility to consult with the instructor to clarify any ambiguities."

Your Personal Information

Name:

Major and Year:

Interests:

Say something about yourself that helps me to know you:

Your motivation to attend this course:

What do you expect from this course: