

Syllabus

Partial Differential Equations

Math 490, Spring 2009

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Honor Code: For the tests in this class you must not give or receive any aid. For the homework you are encouraged to work with other students, but the work you turn in should be in your own words and should be understood by you.

Textbook: The book is *Basic Partial Differential Equations* by Bleecker and Csordas. We will be following the book fairly closely, though we will not cover all the material that is there.

Grade Breakdown: Your grade will be based on the following percentages for each category of the course.

Homework	Quizzes*	Midterm	Final exam
30%	10%	25%	35%

where the quizzes may or may not happen. If there are no quizzes then the relative percentages will stay the same as indicated, and I will take the total out of 90%.

To calculate your grade you take your average in each category, multiply it by the percentage that category is worth, and add these up. Here’s an example

Your scores	HW	Quizzes	MT	FX
	83%	75%	75%	90%
Your grade	$.3(.83) + .1(.75) + .25(.75) + .35(.9)$			

So what do I do with the total percentage? Here’s how the breakdown works:

A \geq 93	B+ \geq 87	C+ \geq 77	D \geq 60
A- \geq 90	B \geq 83	C \geq 73	F \geq 0
	B- \geq 80	C- \geq 70	

Homework:

The homework for this course will be fairly standard: written solutions of problems. There will be “solve this problem” type exercises. There will also be light-weight proofs: these are not logical arguments about theoretical statements, but rather “prove that such-and-such a function gives a solution of such-and-such a differential equation.”

I will try to have homework assigned and due every week.

I will probably not be able to grade every problem. This is unfortunate since you deserve to have every problem graded and since this would help you out, but there is only one of me and about 25 of you and maybe 125 homework problems per week (from my point of view, not yours: from yours there will be maybe 5 problems per week).

Quizzes: The quizzes are going to be on statements of results and definitions. These things form the basic vocabulary of algebra and the quizzes will help you master this. They should be pretty easy.

Tests: We will have one midterm and a final exam. I will try to write them so that most problems are similar to homework problems. However, I might have one “new” type problem on each test, just to “test” you.

Office Hours: I'll have regularly scheduled office hours, at the following times, but you can come by my office any time, and I may change the regular office hours later to match a common time that lots of people are coming by. In addition, email works well as a light-weight alternative to office hours.

Monday: 3:00–4:00 and Thursday: 2:00–4:00.

Disabilities: I will happily accommodate any needs you have based upon a disability that is registered with the office of Disability Support Services (DSS). You need to contact me ahead of time for this accommodation. You can contact DSS at 410-617-2062, or mwiedefeld “at” loyola.edu .

Course outline: Here's what I would like to cover, my guess is that some of it will have to be left out: Chapter 1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 7.1, 7.2, 8.1, 8.2.