MA 431 SECTION 01
ADVANCED LINEAR ALGEBRA I
SPRING 2013, MWF 11:00 – 11:50, MAB 5

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jessica Stovall
OFFICE: MAB 105
EMAIL: jstovall@una.edu
PHONE NUMBER: 256-765-4762

OFFICE HOURS: MW: 9:00 – 10:00
               MW: 12:00 – 1:00
               TR: 9:00 – 10:00
               F: 12:00 – 1:00
               Also by Appointment

HOW TO CONTACT ME: Send me an email, catch me at my office, or give me a call.

PREREQUISITES: MA 126 and either CS 245 or MA 325

CREDIT HOURS: 3

TEXTBOOK: Elementary Linear Algebra by Kolman & Hill, 9th Ed.

You must purchase the required materials immediately so you do not get behind in the course and/or miss any assignments. There are no make-ups allowed for missed homework, quizzes or tests!

WEBPAGES: ANGEL (una.angellearning.com)

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. The student shall demonstrate knowledge of linear algebra. 290-3-3-.13(2)(h)5(ii)
2. The student shall demonstrate ability to construct logical arguments for mathematics statements that are consistent within an axiomatic framework.

COURSE CONTENT: Systems of linear equations; matrices; determinants; vector spaces; linear transformations.
CLASS ETIQUETTE:

Class will begin and end on time, as determined by my watch.

It is requested that cell phones be turned off or turned on silent during class time. If a problem develops with cell phones going off in class, I will institute a grade deduction.

During exams, there will be a designated place for all belongings…do not bring anything to an exam that you are uncomfortable placing away from your desk. No cell phones will be allowed in sight during exams.

Sleeping in class will not be tolerated. Reading newspapers, books, headphones, and so on are similarly forbidden. Personal conversations should take place outside of class time.

Disregard of any of these policies may result in your removal from the course.

OFFICE ETIQUETTE:

“Office Hours” mean that I will be in my office, and you are welcome to walk in for help.

“Appointment” means “previously-arranged and mutually-convenient meeting time.”

You can always try your luck, and stop by my office to see if I am available, but keep in mind that I often have other responsibilities.

Please come prepared to office hours. Try to formulate specific questions to ask, or show me where you got stuck in solving a problem. It will make our time together more effective!

EMAIL ETIQUETTE:

Please include your name and class time with your emails.

Be very specific with your questions. Tell me where you are stuck and what you are trying on a problem. This will allow me to understand what is troubling you and will result in a more efficient response.

When trying to set up an appointment via email, be sure to include times you are available, and an estimate of how much time you think you may need.
ATTENDANCE:

Daily attendance is expected in this class and is necessary to learn the material. Attendance will be taken every day. You must be on time and stay the entire class in order to get credit for the day’s attendance. If you exceed 6 unexcused absences, no credit may be earned for the course. You will either need to withdraw from the course or you will receive an F for your course grade. To receive an excused absence you must notify me as soon as possible and bring documentation the day you return.

CALCULATOR POLICY: You will be allowed to use a simple scientific calculator for this course. I recommend the TI-30X IIS. Any calculator capable of graphing, symbolic differentiation, or integration will not be allowed unless told otherwise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

You are expected to regularly check your UNA email for information relating to this class. Not reading these announcements and thus not learning about the necessary information is not a valid excuse, even if it affects your grade.

HANDOUTS:

Handouts for the lectures will be posted on ANGEL. You will need to be sure to print them and bring them with you to class. These are vital to following the lecture, since examples and word problems will not be written separately on the board.

HOMEWORK:

Several homework problems will be assigned. You can access the homework assignments on the web page. It is in your best interest to complete the homework on the day the material is covered. DO NOT fall behind!!!

Like all mathematics, linear algebra is not a spectator sport; you will learn only by doing!

Homework questions will be addressed during office hours or via email, not during class time. Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have questions!!!
ACCOMMODATIONS:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the University offers reasonable accommodations to students with eligible documented learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. Under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act of 2008, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities as compared to an average person in the population. It is the responsibility of the student to contact Disability Support Services to initiate the process to develop an accommodation plan. This accommodation plan will not be applied retroactively. Appropriate, reasonable accommodations will be made to allow each student to meet course requirements, but no fundamental or substantial alteration of academic standards will be made. Students needing assistance should contact Disability Support Services (256-765-4214).

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

All members of the university community are expected to be honorable and observe standards of conduct appropriate to a community of scholars. Students are expected to behave in an ethical manner. Individuals who disregard the core values of truth and honesty bring disrespect to themselves and the University. A university community that allows academic dishonesty will suffer harm to the reputation of students, faculty, and graduates. It is in the best interest of the entire university community to sanction any individual who chooses not to accept the principles of academic honesty by committing acts such as cheating, plagiarism, or misrepresentation. Offenses are reported to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost for referral to the University Student Conduct System for disposition.

GRADES:

There are 650 points available for this course; they are distributed as described below. General guidelines for letter grades are as follows:

- A: 585 – 650 (90% – 100%)
- B: 520 – 584 (80% - 89%)
- C: 455 – 519 (70% - 79%)
- D: 390 – 454 (60% - 69%)
- F: 389 and below (59% and below)
GRADE DISTRIBUTION: Grades are determined based on points as follows:

1. Four In-Class Exams worth 100 points each 400 points
2. Final Exam worth 200 points 200 points
3. Attendance and Participation 50 points

TOTAL: 650 points

IN – CLASS EXAMS (400 points):

There will be 4 in class exams. Each exam will be worth 100 points. There are NO make-up exams. If a test is missed, you should notify me as soon as possible on the day of the exam. If you have a legitimate and documented excuse, we will then discuss your options.

FINAL EXAM (200 points):

You will be taking a COMPREHENSIVE final exam. This exam will be worth 200 points. The exam is scheduled for Tuesday, May 7, 2013 from 10:15 – 12:00. Make necessary arrangements now to attend as NO exceptions will be made.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (50 points):

Attendance and Participation in the course are worth 50 points. To earn these points, you need to come to class on time, be prepared, and work problems as instructed. This includes having your handouts with you in order to complete the problems. You will be allowed 3 unexcused absences without penalty. Each additional unexcused absence after that will remove 5 points.

My Expectations:

- I expect you to work hard. In fact, I expect you to work very hard. Linear algebra comes naturally to very few people. I give homework for a reason. And the best problems are the “hard” ones. Why? Because they force you learn something!
- I expect you to ask and answer questions in class. Don’t be shy! If you think your question/answer is silly, ask/say it anyway! You certainly won’t be the only one who was thinking it.
- I expect you to treat me and all of your classmates with respect.
- I expect you to get help. Whether it’s from your peers via a study group, a math tutor, or my office hours; get help before you think you need it!
- I expect you to learn to think “outside the box.” Mathematics is not just a subject; it’s a way of thinking.
I expect you to pass this class!

My Responsibilities:

- My main responsibility is to help you learn linear algebra. I promise I will not give all of my tricks away in class. If I did, you would be memorizing, not learning.
- I am also responsible for maintaining a positive learning environment.
- I am here to help you earn the grade you want.
- I am responsible for guiding you towards the answer and the way of thinking necessary for this course.

The list can go on, but mainly, I am here to help you as much as I can, but YOU are the one who must do the work and learn the math.

SIGNIFICANT DATES:

January 9 – First Day of Class
January 16 – Last Day for 100% Refund for Tuition and Fees
January 21 – NO CLASS – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Holiday
February 15 – NO CLASS – Winter Break
March 1 – Midterm
March 8 – Last Day to Drop a Class with a “W”
March 25 – 29 – NO CLASS – Spring Break
April 17 – Last Day to Drop a Class with a “WP/WF” or completely withdraw
May 1 – Last Day of Fall Classes
May 2 – NO CLASS – Study Day
May 3 – 8 – Final Exams

DISCLAIMER:

This is a general policy statement and is subject to change by the instructor at any time.