

MA 518 LINEAR ALGEBRA I Spring 2004

MW 4:00-5:15 p.m. ILB 340

Instructor: Dr. Victoria Sadovskaya. You may call me Victoria.
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Office hours: MW 2:20-3:20 p.m., F 12:15-1:15 p.m., and by appointment
Course homepage: www.southalabama.edu/mathstat/personal_pages/sadovska/518/518.html

Prerequisites. An undergraduate course in linear algebra and some experience with proofs.

Text. *Linear Algebra* by Charles Curtis.

Objectives. The objective of the course is to provide a firm theoretical foundation in linear algebra that will enable the students to continue studies in mathematics or science.

Coverage. Chapters 1-8. Topics include vector spaces, linear transformations, determinants, eigenvalues, canonical forms, dual and quotient spaces, multilinear forms, inner products.

Attendance policy. Regular attendance and participation are expected.

Exams. There will be an in-class midterm exam and a final exam. The final will be cumulative, but the material covered after the midterm will be emphasized.

Midterm Exam: Wednesday, March 3.
Final Exam: Monday, May 3, 6-8 p.m.

All students must plan to take the exams at the scheduled times. There will be no make-up exams. If you miss the midterm exam for *unavoidable reasons*, such as illness or a family emergency, the midterm score will be replaced by 2/3 of the final exam score. Otherwise, the score for the missed test will be zero.

Homework. A homework assignment will be given each Wednesday, it will be due the following Wednesday. *No late homework will be accepted.*

Standards of written work. The solutions must be neatly and clearly written and logically structured. You may use without proof the statements established in class, the results of previous homework assignments, and the statements in the book (only in the sections already covered!). You may refer to the to statements in the text simply by the number (*by Theorem (1.1), ...*).

You may discuss homework problems with other students and with me, but the final write-up must be your own.

Final grade computation. Your final score will be calculated as follows:

Homework:	50%
Midterm Exam:	20%
Final Exam:	30%

Your letter grade will be determined according to the following scale:

A :	at least 89%
B :	at least 75%
C :	at least 60%
D :	at least 50%
F :	below 50%

Notification of course grades. Final grades will be available on PAWS. Do not call the mathematics department to ask about your grade. I will not give grades over the phone or email.

Dropping. The final drop date is April 9. Please speak to me if you are getting behind. Also talk to me before making a final decision to drop.

Disclaimer. The requirements and the policies may be modified as circumstances dictate. Such changes will be provided to the students in class and in writing.

Academic accommodations. If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please notify me and provide certification from the Office of Special Student Services. This office is directed by Ms. Bernita Pulmas and is located in the Student Center, Room 270, Phone 460-7212.