MAT 532 — APPLIED LINEAR ALGEBRA
FALL 2012

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Lecture: TR 9:30–10:50, Carnegie 311
Office hours: MW 1:30–4:30, by appointment, and any time my door is open
Published by SIAM, ISBN 978-0-898714-54-8
Course webpage: leuschke.org/teaching/mat-532-fall-2012/

Course Description: This course is about applications of linear algebra. How much we can cover will depend to some extent on the backgrounds of the students, but the applications we cover should at least include: electrical circuits, curve fitting, LU factorizations, least squares and projections, orthogonality, QR factorizations, Fourier series, and discrete (fast) Fourier transform. Possible additional topics: singular value decomposition, Markov chains and the PageRank algorithm, error-correcting codes.

A certain amount of theory will be necessary beyond what is covered in MAT 331 or 485, but it will be in the service of the applications. Furthermore, we will pay attention to computational issues and practical limitations that would normally be ignored in a pure linear algebra course.

I expect to cover the first five chapters of the text, with some omissions. Hopefully much of chapters 1–3 can be reviewed quickly.

Prerequisite: MAT 331, MAT 485, or graduate standing.

Grading: I will use the following scheme to compute your grade:

- Homework: 25%
- Hour exams: 2@ 25% each
- Final exam: 25%

Homework: Homework will generally be assigned and collected weekly. You are free to work with other people in the class, but should turn in your solutions in your own handwriting.
**Hour exams:** There will be two hour-long exams during the semester, given in lecture.

- Exam 1: Thursday 11 October
- Exam 2: Thursday 15 November

Any changes to this schedule will be announced in class and on the course webpage.

**Final exam:** Monday 10 December, 12:45pm–2:45pm (“exam period 3”). The final will be cumulative, with an emphasis on the last third of the course.

**Course web page:** From time to time, interesting or useful information will appear on the course web page. You should make a habit of checking it regularly (and remind me if I forget to update it).

**Students with Disabilities:** If you believe that you need accommodations for a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), disabilityservices.syr.edu, located in Room 309 of 804 University Avenue, or call (315) 443-4498 for an appointment to discuss your needs and the process for requesting accommodations. ODS is responsible for coordinating disability-related accommodations and will issue students with documented disabilities Accommodation Authorization Letters, as appropriate. Since accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ODS as soon as possible. You are also welcome to contact me privately to discuss your academic needs although I cannot arrange for disability-related accommodations.

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For more information, see academicintegrity.syr.edu/academic-integrity-policy/.

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