MATH 2160 Linear Algebra, Section 001  
Fall 2011  
MWF 11:00-11:50 UH 124

Professor: Dr. Sabrina Hessinger, 344-3092, Sabrina.Hessinger@armstrong.edu  
Webpage: http://math.armstrong.edu/faculty/hessinger/

Office Hours: UH 291, MWF 1:30-3:00, or by appointment

Prerequisite: MATH 2072 (with a C or better)

Text: Linear Algebra and its Applications, 4th ed., David Lay

Grading:
- 60% Four in class exams Exam Dates are 9/9, 10/5, 11/4, 12/2:
- 25% Final exam Friday, December 9th at 11:00 a.m.
- 15% Compilation Quiz & Maple Project Grade: There will be a total of twenty three 10 point grades to earn through individual quizzes, group quizzes and computer projects. I will drop your lowest 3 grades from this set. Your resulting average will comprise this 15%. See below for more details on the quizzes and projects.

Technology: Students in MATH 2160 will be allowed to use graphing calculators for assignments and for class tests unless indicated otherwise. I will use the TI 83 Plus for classroom purposes. You will also be learning and using the computer algebra system, Maple, primarily for short class projects which are described further below. AASU has a site license for Maple and it is available in all student labs. I will also reserve UH 110 for several optional Maple help/work sessions.

Attendance Policy: Coming to class is good. I have no doubt you’ve learned this by now. Furthermore this class will be fun (hopefully most of the time for you and always for me) and in general I will use our time together to clarify, deepen, and extend upon the material in the text, not repeat it. Additionally, as if that is not enough to get you to class each day, I will take attendance at random throughout the semester and each such day will serve as one bonus point to one of your quiz grades. Do not ask for any additional extra credit, this is all there is.

Exams / Make-up Policy: There are no make-up exams except for extreme circumstances which should be discussed with me before the exam. Otherwise, exactly one lowest or missed exam score will be replaced with the final exam score. Exams will test your understanding of concepts, computational skill, AND ability to apply your knowledge to new problems, including “real-life” applications. It is imperative that you complete any class preparation assignments, regularly study your notes and class handouts, as well as read the text, complete your homework in order to be successful on the exams. See Additional Resources section below for more.

Homework Policy: Time spent doing mathematics is the one factor most highly correlated to success in mathematics. Keeping up with all homework will be necessary and you should definitely work collaboratively to understand your homework in general but be able to work the problems on your own as well. All independent quizzes will be chosen directly from the homework set. Otherwise, homework will not be collected. Please come see me if you fall behind on homework!

More on the Quizzes: Every Monday a quiz problem will be selected at random directly from your homework problems for you to complete individually in class and turn in. On Fridays, except when there is a test, there will be a group quiz the last 15-20 minutes of class covering material from the previous week. All resources (except solutions manuals) are allowed for these. You will also have the opportunity to rate the input of your group members during group quizzes. Your group contribution ratings will be factored into your group quiz grade.

More on Maple Projects: Two or three projects will be assigned during the semester. In general, you will have two weeks for each project from initial assignment to due date. Grading criteria and guidelines will be described in detail when each project is assigned. Each project is worth two quiz grades. I will give out very early in the semester a Maple Intro worksheet which you may do on your own or with me in an optional out of class lab session to be scheduled.
ADA/Special Accommodations: If you have a disability and need accommodations (as documented with a letter from AASU’s Director of Disability Services), if I must know of emergency medical information about you, or if you need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please inform me privately in my office as soon as possible.

Honor Code: You should be familiar with the student Honor Code (AASU catalog, p. 352) and abide by its rules. You are highly encouraged to form study groups and work homework together! Tests must be your own work. Cheating will be reported to the AASU honor court.

Additional Resources:

- First and foremost - your brain is your own best resource. In order to be successful in this class you will likely need to study a minimum of 3 hours outside of class for each hour in class. These 9 hours per week should include each of the following activities:
  - Read the textbook for comprehension. Mathematics must be read actively. Stop and think things through as you read them. Make notes in the margins in your own words. Try explaining things to others as well.
  - Complete all of your homework from the previous section before we cover the next section.
  - If possible, begin an exam study guide as you go by summarizing each section once you understand, in words and with examples, once you understand it.
  - Prepare for the next lecture by reading the text and completing any class preparation assignment I may have given out.
  - If you find yourself falling behind, I would suggest you keep a study log to see how much time you are distributing amongst the activities above. Make sure reading and doing homework are priority.

- Plus...don’t forget me! Please feel free to make use of my office hours. I’ll also do my best to answer Qs via email, although I’ll only check email intermittently in the evening. Come see me early if you are having trouble. I can’t help you if you don’t come see me!

Other Stuff:

- Please be on time The first 10 minutes are what make the rest of class make sense!
- Turn off all cell phones, ipods, blackberries etc. If you need to have your cell phone due to contact in case of emergency, please put it on vibrate or silent.
- FYI - My Goals for this class:
  1. To have a respectful, enjoyable, and interactive environment which is conducive to EVERYONE’s learning.
  2. For you to feel comfortable in class interacting with each other and with me in an effort to reach an in-depth understanding of the material.
  3. For each one of you to reach your personal goals for learning in this course.

- Typical Weekly Organization of Classtime
  Mondays
  - 5-10 minutes - Independent quiz
  - 40 minutes - New material: development of concept
  Wednesdays
  - 10 minutes - Homework discussion in groups
  - 10 minutes - Homework hints full class
  - 30 minutes - New material
  Fridays
  - 5 minutes - Homework hints full class
  - 30 minutes - New material
  - 15 minutes - Group Quiz open resource on announced material.