

1499 Math 2A-63 MW Differential Equations, Winter, 2010

Instructor: Dr. Karl Schaffer

Class meeting days: Mon./Wed.

Class time 6-8:10 PM

Classroom: E-31 (note change from E-36)

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Office phone: 408-864-8214

Office: E-23A

Office Hrs: : Mon/Wed/ 5:00-5:50 PM, Tue/Thu 12:30-1:20 PM

or by appointment

De Anza class web site: <http://nebula2.deanza.edu/~karl/>

Course content: Ordinary differential equations, with selected applications. This course will include qualitative, numerical, and analytical approaches.

Recommended: Programmable graphing calculator.

Text: Differential Equations, Third Edition. By Blanchard, Devaney, Hall. Published by Thomson Brooks/Cole Publishing Co., 2006. ISBN 0-495-01265-3. The authors maintain an excellent web site at <http://math.bu.edu/odes/>, with sample exams, interactive lessons, notes, etc. The text may have (if you buy it new) a CD-Rom with excellent exploratory software.

Grades: 90-100 A, 80-89 B, 70-79 C, 60-69 D, < 60 F, based on:

- 20% **Short quizzes, writing assignments or reports, or in-class assignments**, often to be given during class, though we may be able to use the online quizzes provided by the publisher. These will often involve group work. You may drop your lowest score. These assignments will together constitute the number of points of **one exam**.
- 20% **One hour exam, Mon. Jan. 25 (Open book, open notes)**
- 20% **One hour exam, Mon., Feb. 22 (Open book, open notes)**
- 20% **Homework assignments.** Homework is assigned during each class and must be kept in a loose-leaf binder. Your homework may be checked periodically (usually during exams), and some assignments may be collected for grading. Homework is graded for completion, not correctness. **NO LATE HOMEWORK ACCEPTED. EVER!**
- 20% **Final Exam:** mandatory, comprehensive, given on **Wed., March 24, 6:15-8:15 PM. (Open book, open notes)** There will be no make-ups or early exams. **The final exam will be used to replace one of the two one-hour exams, if and only if final is higher.**

NO LATE WORK IS ACCEPTED - NO MAKE-UPS. IF YOU MUST MISS ONE MAJOR EXAM, IT WILL BE REPLACED WITH THE FINAL EXAM SCORE, BUT THIS IS NOT A GOOD IDEA! HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS MAY BE CHECKED AT ANY TIME, SO KEEP YOUR WORK CURRENT!

Some background on the instructor: Ph.D. and MA in Mathematics from UC Santa Cruz, undergraduate work at University of Chicago and University of Alabama. Grew up in New England and Alabama. Do research in the mathematics of “networks,” (graph theory) and am very active in math education for K-12. I am interested in and will use collaborative learning and interdisciplinary learning techniques in the class. I am also a modern dance performer and choreographer, and company I co-direct does shows about math and dance, among other things. For more background on this see www.mathdance.org and/or www.schafferstem.org.