

# MA 405, Introduction to Linear Algebra and Matrices, Nathan Reading

<b>Prerequisites</b>	Prerequisite: MA 241 (MA 225 recommended); Corequisite: MA 341 is recommended.
<b>Credit load</b>	3 credits
<b>Instructor</b>	Nathan Reading
<b>Office</b>	SAS 4118
<b>Telephone</b>	919-515-3261. This is an office desk phone that does not accept text messages. Email is a much better way to reach me than phone.
<b>Email</b>	reading AT math DOT ncsu DOT edu
<b>Course website</b>	<a href="http://www4.ncsu.edu/~nreadin/405">http://www4.ncsu.edu/~nreadin/405</a> . You are responsible for material on this site. You will be notified by email or in class when new information is posted on the site (except for regularly occurring changes like posting of assignments and solutions).
<b>Class email list</b>	You are responsible for any information emailed to the class email list. You are expected to check your ncsu email account daily.
<b>Class Sessions</b>	Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12:50-1:40 pm in SAS 2235.  <a href="#">Classroom Guidelines</a>  <a href="#">MA 405 and you</a>
<b>Office hours</b>	TBD Scheduled office hours are a "drop-in" service. No need to tell me whether you are coming. To make an appointment, email me. I discourage students from simply dropping by my office without an appointment outside of scheduled office hours.
<b>Text</b>	<i>Introduction to Linear Algebra, with Applications</i> by DeFranza and Gagliardi. You will need to have this book for the course.  There is only one edition of the book. There are used copies (and a few new ones) available published by McGraw-Hill and there are new copies (and a few used ones) available published by Waveland Press. The two are the same book, and you should buy whichever edition you can get most easily/inexpensively.  The book is also on reserve at the library: <a href="#">Details on reserve copies in the library</a>
<b>Homework</b>	Homework will be assigned weekly. Homework will not be collected, but it is nominally "due" every Wednesday. The homework will not be collected, but you will take a quiz on the homework on the due date. The choice of homework problems will be an indication of what I expect students to learn. It is expected that students will do every problem in every assignment and will seek help from the instructor, from classmates and/or from others when they have trouble with a problem. You are allowed to work in groups on the homework.

	<p>However, if you do not put in your own effort on each problem, you may find that you are less prepared for quizzes and exams than you would like to be.</p> <p>Here are the <a href="#">homework assignments</a>.</p>
<b>Quizzes</b>	<p>On Wednesdays when homework is due, there will be a quiz on the homework assignment due that day. The purpose of the quiz will be to test your understanding of the assigned homework problems. It will be my intention to write a quiz that students will do well on, if they have mastered every homework problem. If you find that your performance on quizzes is not what you would like it to be, then you probably should be putting more effort into homework. I may also occasionally give "pop" quizzes.</p> <p><b>I will not</b> be dropping the lowest quiz grade.</p>
<b>Reading Assignments, Lecture Schedule and Tests</b>	<p>Students are expected to read the text in addition to attending lectures. Here is the <a href="#">most up-to-date schedule</a> for the class. This schedule (except for test dates) is subject to change as the course progresses.</p>
<b>Midterm exams</b>	<p>There will be <b>three midterm exams</b> in class. The dates are: Wednesday, February 13, Friday, March 8, and Wednesday, April 17.</p>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<p>The final exam is Monday, May 6, 1:00--4:00 p.m., in the usual room.</p>
<b>Comments, answers, review sheets, etc.</b>	<p><a href="#">Comments, answers, review sheets, etc.</a></p>
<b>Grading</b>	<p>The student's numerical score will be determined by weighting exams and quizzes as follows: 20% for quizzes, 15% each for the three exams and 35% for the final. The numerical score will be a number from 0 to 1000, and final grades will be determined on the scale below. Precise cutoffs for + and -- grades will be determined after the final. These gradelines may be adjusted slightly but only in a way that improves the letter grades assigned. Please don't have unrealistic expectations about the gradelines being adjusted. They will probably not be adjusted, or will be adjusted by only a very few points.</p> <p>900-1000 A-, A, A+  800-899 B-, B, B+  700-799 C-, C, C+  600-699 D-, D, D+</p>
<b>Wolfware</b>	<p>I will be keeping track of your grades on Moodle (Wolfware), so you will be able to see them as soon as they are posted.</p>
<b>Succeeding in this course</b>	<p>I would expect an average student to spend 6-9 hours per week outside of class on this course. This amount can vary: In the past, I have had students who are not well-prepared for the class complain that they spend more than 10 hours a week and aren't able to complete the assignments. You are advised to get most of the weekly assignment done early to allow time for you to get your questions answered (perhaps in office hours). Starting the assignment the weekend before it is due will probably not be a good strategy. It will also be to your advantage to spend some time each week making a first pass through the material from the</p>

	<p>text that we plan to cover in class that week, so you can get your questions/confusions clarified in class.</p> <p>If you are working hard and still struggling, please get in contact with me and we can talk.</p>
<b>N.C. State Polices, Regulations, and Rules</b>	<p>Students are responsible for reviewing the NC State University polices, regulations, and rules which pertain to their course rights and responsibilities:</p> <p><a href="https://oied.ncsu.edu/equity/policies/">Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination Policy Statement</a> with additional references at <a href="https://oied.ncsu.edu/equity/policies/">https://oied.ncsu.edu/equity/policies/</a></p> <p><a href="#">Code of Student Conduct</a></p> <p><a href="#">Grades and Grade Point Average</a></p> <p><a href="#">Credit-Only Courses</a></p> <p><a href="#">Audits</a></p>
<b>Policy on Attendance and Make-ups</b>	<p>Attending every lecture and recitation section (in its entirety) is considered part of the course requirement. No provisions will be made for students to make up missed work or tests except as spelled out in the University's attendance regulation available at <a href="http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03">http://policies.ncsu.edu/regulation/reg-02-20-03</a> .</p>
<b>Policy on Incompletes</b>	<p>Incompletes are not offered except in cases where special circumstances (such as outlined in the attendance regulation mentioned above) make it impossible for a student to complete the course. Even in these special circumstances, incompletes will not be offered unless the student was in a position to pass the class before the special circumstance arose. In particular, incompletes cannot be used as a way to "bail out" when a student feels that they cannot pass the course or feels they cannot do all the work they put off until the end of the semester.</p>
<b>Statement for students with disabilities</b>	<p>Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, students must register with the Disability Services Office at Suite 2221, Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 919-515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see <a href="#">Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation (REG02.20.01)</a> .</p>
<b>Academic Integrity</b>	<p>Students are expected to conform to standards of academic integrity as described in the Code of Student Conduct, which can be found in the <a href="#">Code of Student Conduct</a>. The student, by signing or writing their name on a homework assignment or test, affirms that they have neither given nor received unauthorized aid. (See "Homework Assignments" above for guidelines on acceptable collaboration on homework.)</p>
<b>NCSU Counseling center:</b>	<p>The Counseling Center offers confidential counseling to NC State students experiencing personal, academic or vocational problems. Check out <a href="http://counseling.dasa.ncsu.edu">counseling.dasa.ncsu.edu</a>.</p>
<b>Help for students in distress:</b>	<p>Although the counseling center is a great help, sometimes it's hard to recognize when we need help. So we need to look out for each other too. Occasionally, you may come across a fellow student whose behavior worries you. You can and should report worrisome behavior to the NC State's Students of Concern website: <a href="http://studentsofconcern.ncsu.edu">http://studentsofconcern.ncsu.edu</a>. Although you can report anonymously, it is preferred that you share your contact information so they can follow-up with you personally.</p>