

## MATH413: MODERN APPLIED MATHEMATICS I – FALL 2019

**Instructor:** Dr. Harbir Lamba  
**E-mail:** hlamba@gmu.edu (only email me from your official GMU email account please).  
**Office:** Exploratory Hall Room 4459  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday 10.15–11.00 or by appointment.  
**Webpage:** <http://math.gmu.edu/~harbir/m413/> . Note we will NOT be using BlackBoard.

**Textbook:** Introduction to the Foundations of Applied Mathematics, Mark H. Holmes, Springer, 2009 (ISBN: 978-0-387-87749-5).

Homework questions will be set after each section is completed. These will not be collected or graded but you are **STRONGLY** advised to attempt them and write out your solutions as if they would be. You are encouraged to discuss these problems amongst yourselves and to make use of the office hours. I will go through the majority of the homework questions in the following class and/or post them on the web, but you will not benefit from this unless you have attempted them properly beforehand. Note that these homework questions are the **ABSOLUTE MINIMUM** you should be doing each week.

The course will be evaluated with 3 (1 hour long) in-class tests on Thursday September 26th, Thursday October 31st and Thursday November 21st. Your 2 best results (relative to the class average for that test) will each contribute 25% towards the evaluation and the remaining 50% will come from a (cumulative) final exam on **Thursday December 12th**. I shall explain the grading system in more detail in the first lecture<sup>1</sup>. If you miss more than one of the in-class exams then you will need to provide very good (and well-documented) reasons for missing **EACH** of them. There will be **NO** make-up tests, alternative test dates, or ‘extra-credit’ assignments. You are expected to abide by the University Honor Code and all suspected violations will be reported to the Honor Committee. No outside materials will be allowed during any of the examinations.

Additional Remarks:

- 1) Feel free to ask questions in class. It makes things more interesting for everyone, myself included.
- 2) If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible and contact the Office of Disability Resources at 703 993 2474. All academic accommodations *must* be arranged through that office.
- 3) It is **YOUR** responsibility to regularly check the course webpage and your official university email address for announcements.
- 4) Please check the course webpage or this handout for the answers to any questions you may have before emailing me.
- 5) Finally **turn off and PUT AWAY any and ALL electronic devices** including phones, calculators, tablets and laptops. If I see you even looking at your phone, let alone texting, then you will leave the classroom and miss the rest of the lecture. I don't like having to do this but it is for the benefit of everyone's concentration, not least mine.

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<sup>1</sup>NOTE: I DO NOT GRADE ON A CURVE. The formula I use to rank you involves the class average but the grade boundaries are determined by absolute, not relative, performance! If you all deserve an A grade then you will all get an A grade. If you all deserve to fail then you will all fail. I only take the class average into account to cancel out any differences in the difficulty of the tests.