

Math 203, Fall 2021
Linear Algebra
Section 001, CRN 70715

Time:	MW 12:00 - 1:15
Place:	Horizon Hall, Room 1014
Instructor:	Walter Morris
Office:	Exploratory Hall, Room 4207
Phone:	703-993-1481
Office Hours:	MW 11:00-11:45, 1:30-2:45
e-mail:	wmorris@gmu.edu

This course is an introduction to Linear Algebra. The student will learn about systems of linear equations, linear independence, linear transformations, inverse of a matrix, determinants, vector spaces, eigenvalues, eigenvectors, and orthogonalization. The prerequisite for this course is a C or better in Math 114.

The text that we will use is David C. Lay, Judi J. McDonald, Steven R. Lay, “**Linear Algebra and Its Applications**,” 6th Edition, Pearson, 2021. We will cover sections 1.1-1.5, 1.7-1.9, 2.1-2.3, 3.1-3.3, 4.1-4.6, 5.1-5.5, 6.1-6.4.

This will be in-person classes, in the new classroom Horizon Hall 1014. This classroom is specially designed to promote “active learning.” Much of the class will be taken up by students solving problems on the whiteboards. Please bring dry erase markers. Blackboard will have the lectures posted. Please read through the the lectures before coming to class. There are also the recordings copied from the Spring semester version of this course. You don’t have to listen to the recordings, but some people might prefer that.

10% of the grade comes from class participation. On each of the non-test days, you will turn in a sheet with some worked problems to document the participation. I will drop the lowest 7 participation grades.

There will be three tests during class time, which we will tentatively schedule for September 20, October 18 and November 15. Each of the classtime tests determines 20% of the final grade.

The final exam is cumulative. It will be given on **Monday, December 13, at 10:30 AM**. 20% of the final grade is determined by the final exam.

There will also be homework, which will be worth 10% of the grade. I will drop the lowest homework assignment. You should turn in homework to Gradescope. There is a link to Gradescope in the Blackboard page. Not all of the homework is to be turned in.

The [Mason Honor Code](#) applies. You may not receive help from any person or internet site on quizzes or tests. If you receive help from another person on homework, please state who or what site helped you.

I will maintain a discussion board on Blackboard, in which you can make posts. Please be respectful and mind the rules of [Netiquette](#). You must carefully craft your communication in the online classroom to avoid misinterpretation.

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please notify me and contact the Office of Disability Services ([ODS](#)) at (703) 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the ODS.

Please follow the university policies on masking and filling out the daily form for Covid-19. Here is a link to the [information page](#).

I check my e-mail often. Feel free to email me with questions. Be certain that you understand all of the homework assigned and all of the assigned reading, and that you ask questions in or out of class in order to clear up any problems you might have.

Other links:

Student rights under [FERPA](#)

[Online Education Services, University Libraries](#)

[Writing Center](#)

[Counseling and Psychological Services](#)