

# MATH 5310/6310

Fall 2018

**Instructor** - Dr. Randall R. Holmes

**Office:** 202 Parker Hall

**Hours:** 11:15-11:50 MWF, or by appointment

**Phone:** 844-6571

**E-mail:** holmerr@auburn.edu

**Course website:** <https://web.auburn.edu/holmerr/5310>

**Textbook** There is no textbook that needs to be purchased. The course material will be based on the lectures and an online textbook that I have prepared (click on “Textbook” at the Course website).

## Exams and point allocation

Exam 1 (Sep 21)	100
Exam 2 (Oct 22)	100
Exam 3 (Nov 28)	100
Quizzes*	100
Final Exam (8am, Dec 10)	<u>200</u>
	600

\*The quiz score is adjusted to track with the exam score. See the explanation below.

**Homework** The ongoing homework assignment is for you to read (and reread) the course materials. A goal of the course is to improve your understanding of written mathematics. Careful reading of the materials will help with this. I recommend that you keep a bit ahead of the lectures in your reading. This will give you practice understanding things from the writing alone. You should also study the comments I write on your quizzes as well as study the solutions after they are posted. Even if you get full credit on a problem, you will likely learn something by reading my solution.

**Quizzes** Quizzes are to be completed outside of class entirely on your own using only the online textbook at the course website and any notes that you write down from the lectures.

In particular, you may not receive any help from other students, from tutors, or even from me (though I am available for help in understanding the course material, of course), and you should not seek out solutions in other textbooks or online. (You may, however, seek outside help using the typesetting software L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.) Obviously, you may not use previously posted solutions.

Violations of this policy will be reported to the university Academic Honesty Committee. See Chapter 1202 of the following document for possible sanctions that the committee might impose:

<https://sites.auburn.edu/admin/universitypolicies/policies/academichonestycode.pdf> .

The quizzes, in addition to being learning experiences, are intended to test your understanding of the material as well as your ability to work out some solutions that require more time than can be allotted during an hourly exam.

*Quiz Score Adjustment:* Points on the quizzes will not add up to 100, but at the end of the semester the total will be scaled to 100. This scaled total will then be adjusted, if necessary, so that it does not exceed 1.4 times your overall exam percentage (including the three exams and the final). Here are some examples:

Exams	( $\times 1.4$ )	Quizzes	Adjusted Quizzes
85	(119)	100	100
70	(98)	95	95
55	(77)	75	75
50	(70)	90	70

The adjusted quiz score is the minimum of the numbers in the two middle columns. Note that the adjustment has an effect only in the last example where the exam average is low (50) and the quiz average is high (90). Such a disparity should not arise as long as no shortcuts are taken with the quizzes.

Quizzes will be posted at the website. When a new quiz appears you will receive an e-mail message saying that the quiz has been posted.

Quizzes are due at the start of the class hour on the due date. Unexcused late quizzes will receive at most half credit.

Selected quiz problems will be graded carefully. The scores on the remaining problems (marked with asterisks on the graded quiz) will be based partly on correctness and partly on whether a good attempt was made, so full credit might be given, with no other feedback, even if the solution is not entirely correct. It is particularly important that you read the solutions for problems marked with asterisks to be sure you understand.

It is required that you typeset your quiz solutions using  $\text{\LaTeX}$ . This is the most widely used language for typesetting mathematics, so anyone working in an area where communicating mathematics is important should have experience using the language. I say more about  $\text{\LaTeX}$  in a separate document (click on “LaTeX” at the website and then click on “Quizzes using LaTeX”).

It is also required that you submit your quizzes electronically to a Dropbox folder that I will share with you. I will send an invitation to share a folder to your tigermail account. If you already have a Dropbox account registered under a different e-mail account and you would like to use that instead, send me the address and I will send out a new invitation.

**Missed exams** If you are unable to attend an exam due to illness or family emergency you will be given a make-up exam provided you notify me *before* the start of the exam (via e-mail) and later provide me with a verifiable written excuse. Under no circumstances will a make-up exam be given if you simply show up at the next class and say you missed the exam.

**Grades** The grading scale is

90 – 100 %	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
0 – 59	F

If for a given exam I find that it is warranted, I will draw a curve with lower cutoffs than are indicated here, and those cutoffs will then figure in to the final grading scale.

**Attendance** University policy states that students are expected to attend class sessions. If you need to miss a session, please send me an e-mail message

explaining the absence.

**Contingency plans** If normal class activities are disrupted due to illness, emergency, jury duty, or crisis situation, the syllabus and other course plans and assignments may be modified to allow completion of the course. If this occurs, an addendum to the syllabus and/or course assignments will replace the original materials.