

# MATH 7310

Fall 2016

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

**Office:** 202 Parker Hall

**Hours:** 12:40-12:55 MWF, or by appointment

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**Course website:** <https://web.auburn.edu/holmerr/7310>

**Textbook** There is no required textbook for the course. The course material will be based on the lectures and some online notes that I have prepared (see Course website).

## Exams and point allocation

Exam 1 (Sep 19)	100
Exam 2 (Oct 19)	100
Exam 3 (Nov 16)	100
Homework*	100
Final Exam (12noon, Dec 6)	<u>200</u>
	600

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

**Homework** It is required that you do the homework *entirely on your own*.

For instance, you should receive no help on the homework from other students, from tutors, or even from me (though I am available for general help, of course), and you should not seek out solutions in textbooks or online. Of course, you should not use previously posted solutions at all.

The process of working through the various difficulties you encounter while doing an exercise is the best way to learn. Receiving help with the solutions

keeps you from having that learning experience. There might be an occasional exercise that you will not be able to solve, but if that happens just accept it and rest assured that you learned a lot merely by struggling with the exercise (and that your subsequent performance in the course will show it).

The expectation is that the lectures and the notes will provide you with enough information that you will be able to do most of the exercises with not too much difficulty. If there end up being several exercises that you cannot solve, then that will mean that you have not understood the material at a deep enough level. In that case, you should spend more time studying the notes. If, after doing all you can on your own, you are still having difficulties, then you might consider seeking outside help – with the material, but not with the homework.

Again, the requirement is that you do the homework entirely on your own. Violations will be reported to the university Academic Honesty Committee. See the Academic Honesty Code, including possible sanctions, at

<https://sites.auburn.edu/admin/universitypolicies/Policies/AcademicHonestyCode.pdf> .

*Homework Score Adjustment:* Points on the homework assignments 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	( $\times 1.4$ )	Homework	Adjusted Homework
85	(119)	100	100
70	(98)	95	95
55	(77)	75	75
50	(70)	90	70

The adjusted homework 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 homework average is high (90). Such a disparity should not arise as long as no shortcuts are taken with the homework.

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

Homework is due at the start of the class hour on the due date. Unexcused late homework will receive at most half credit.

Selected exercises will be graded carefully. If you receive no feedback on a particular exercise, do not assume that you did it correctly. Rather, take a moment to check your solution against the posted solution to be sure you understand.

It is required that you typeset your homework 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 “Homework using LaTeX”).

It is also required that you submit your homework 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 or phone) 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 (never higher) cutoffs than are indicated here.

**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.