MATH 2270-004: Linear algebra
Spring 2023

Instructor: Petar Bakić

Pronouns: he/him/his
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Office: JWB 106

Technical Details

Credit: MATH 2270 Linear Algebra is a 4-credit course.

Prerequisites: 'C' or better in ((MATH 1260 OR MATH 1320 OR MATH 1321 OR MATH 2210) OR (MATH 1220 AND Full Major status in Computer Science OR Computer Engineering OR Data Science)) OR 'B' or better in MATH 1220.

Course Type: In person

Class Meetings: MTWF 12:55–01:45, WEB 2250

Office Hours:

– Tue 4:00–5:00pm, JWB 106
– Wed 2:00–3:00pm (after class), JWB 106


Canvas: Canvas will be used for posting course announcements, homework assignments, grades, etc. Please check the Canvas page regularly and/or set up notifications!

About the Course

Course outline: Linear algebra is a cornerstone of modern mathematics. It studies vectors and matrices. More abstractly, it deals with vector spaces and linear maps between them. The topics we will be covering include

– systems of linear equations
– vector spaces, including key concepts such as linear independence, span, basis
– linear maps
– determinants
– eigenvalues and eigenvectors
– applications of linear algebra

Expected Outcomes: By the end of the course, you will be expected to:

1. Have a complete understanding of systems of linear equations. This includes understanding the structure of the space of solutions, as well as being able to solve concrete systems of equations.
2. Understand vector spaces. This includes understanding the key concepts of span, linear independence, and basis, as well as being familiar with various examples of vector spaces.

3. Understand the relation between matrices and linear maps.

4. Be able to perform various operations on matrices, such as finding the rank or the determinant.

5. Be able to find eigenvalues and corresponding eigenspaces for square matrices.

6. Know how to diagonalize a matrix.

7. Apply these techniques to concrete problems discussed in class.

Assessment and Grading:

- **Homework (25%)** There will be a homework assignment due roughly every two weeks. **You will have to submit your work on paper, in person.** I will be dropping the lowest score.
  
  **Tips for turning in your homework:**
  
  — Go to office hours! I will not give out or verify solutions, but will be happy to provide hints!
  
  — Discussions with your peers are not only allowed; they are highly encouraged. However, this does not mean sharing your assignment with others; it means working together! The work you turn in must be your own — even if you work on a problem with other people and come up with a solution as a group, you will have to put it into writing yourself. Assignments written up while looking at someone else’s work are usually very conspicuous and will result in drastic point reductions.
  
  — An important goal of the homework assignments is to give you an opportunity to practice mathematical writing. Therefore, when grading your homework, I will also be looking at the way it is presented: Are the arguments coherent? Is the writing precise? In particular, your homework has to be readable!

- **Exams (75%, 25% each)** We will have two midterms and a final exam. The midterm exams will be taken in class on Friday, Feb 17 and Friday, Mar 31. These exams will consist of typical problems from the preceding weeks; the idea is to assess your understanding of the most important concepts and techniques.

  The final exam will be similar to the midterms, although it may be cumulative (TBD). Our final exam is scheduled for Monday, May 1, 1:00–3:00pm.

**Important:** Please contact me as soon as possible if you are unable to take any of the exams at the scheduled time.

**Final grades** are determined based on your total course percentage:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage (A–D)</th>
<th>Percentage (A–F)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93, 100</td>
<td>A– (90, 93)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>[87, 90]</td>
<td>B– (80, 83)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>[85, 87]</td>
<td>C– (73, 80)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>[77, 79]</td>
<td>D– (67, 70)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>[75, 77]</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>[67, 70]</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>[65, 67]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>[0, 60]</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I may modify this grading scheme during the course of the semester; you will be notified of any adjustments.
**CLASS SCHEDULE AND IMPORTANT DATES**

**Classes begin:** Monday, January 9.

**No school:**
- Monday, January 16 (Labor Day)
- Monday, February 20 (Presidents day)
- March 4–12 (Spring break).

**Exam Dates:**
- Midterm 1: Friday, February 17
- Midterm 2: Friday, March 31
- Final: Monday, May 1

**Other important dates:** The last day to drop is Friday, January 20. The last day to withdraw is Friday, March 3. Please check the [academic calendar](#) for more information pertaining to dropping and withdrawing from a course.

**COVID-19**


Please visit [https://coronavirus.utah.edu](https://coronavirus.utah.edu) for the latest updates on the campus COVID-19 policies.

**POLICIES AND RESOURCES**

**Academic Code of Conduct:** Students are encouraged to review the Student Code for the University of Utah: ([link](#)). In order to ensure that the highest standards of academic conduct are promoted and supported at the University, students must adhere to generally accepted standards of academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, research misconduct, misrepresenting one’s work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. A student who engages in academic misconduct as defined in Part I.B. may be subject to academic sanctions including but not limited to a grade reduction, failing grade, probation, suspension or dismissal from the program or the University, or revocation of the student’s degree or certificate. Sanctions may also include community service, a written reprimand, and/or a written statement of misconduct that can be put into an appropriate record maintained for purposes of the profession or discipline for which the student is preparing.

**Discrimination and Harassment:** If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677 (COPS). Please see Student Bill of Rights, section E [http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php](http://regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.php). You are always welcome to talk to me if someone is threatening or harassing you.

**Student Names and Personal Pronouns:** Canvas allows students to change the name that is displayed AND allows them to add their pronouns to their Canvas name. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student’s legal name as well as “Preferred first name”. I will refer to you with the name and pronoun that feels best for you in class or on assignments. Please advise me of any name or pronoun changes so I can help create a learning environment in which you, your name, and your pronoun are respected. If you need any assistance or support with related questions, I am happy to talk to you! The LGBT Resource Center might also be of help: ([link](#)).
**English Language Learners:** If you are an English language learner, please be aware of several resources on campus that will support you with your language and writing development. These resources include: the Writing Center (http://writingcenter.utah.edu/); the Writing Program (http://writing-program.utah.edu/); the English Language Institute (http://continue.utah.edu/eli/). Please let me know if there is any additional support you would like to discuss for this class.

**Undocumented Student Support:** Immigration is a complex phenomenon with broad impact—those who are directly affected by it, as well as those who are indirectly affected by their relationships with family members, friends, and loved ones. If your immigration status presents obstacles to engaging in specific activities or fulfilling specific course criteria, confidential arrangements may be requested from the Dream Center. Arrangements with the Dream Center will not jeopardize your student status, your financial aid, or any other part of your residence. The Dream Center offers a wide range of resources to support undocumented students (with and without DACA) as well as students from mixed-status families. To learn more, please contact the Dream Center at 801.213.3697 or visit [dream.utah.edu](http://dream.utah.edu).

**Veterans Center:** If you are a student veteran, the U of Utah has a Veterans Support Center located in Room 161 in the Olpin Union Building. Hours: M-F 8-5pm. Please visit their website for more information about what support they offer, a list of ongoing events and links to outside resources: [http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/](http://veteranscenter.utah.edu/) Please also let me know if you need any additional support in this class for any reason.

**Wellness Statement:** Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student’s ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. Taking care of yourself is more important than academic success at all times. For helpful resources contact the Center for Student Wellness at [www.wellness.utah.edu](http://www.wellness.utah.edu) or 801-581-7776.

**Student Success Advocates:** The mission of Student Success Advocates is to support students in making the most of their University of Utah experience (ssa.utah.edu). They can assist with mentoring, resources, etc. Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact a Student Success Advocate for support ([https://asuu.utah.edu/displaced-students](https://asuu.utah.edu/displaced-students)).

**The Financial Wellness Center** provides competent and confidential financial counseling services for students. Some of the topics they cover include: scholarships, budgeting, paying for school, credit, taxes, student loans, and more! ([https://financialwellness.utah.edu](https://financialwellness.utah.edu)).

**The Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability & Access, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801-581-5020. CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability & Access.

**Addressing Sexual Misconduct:** Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted on the basis of your sex, including sexual orientation or gender identity/expression, you are encouraged to report it to the University’s Title IX Coordinator; Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or to the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).
**Campus Safety:** The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, call campus police at 801-585-COPS (801-585-2677). You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more information regarding safety and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit [safeu.utah.edu](http://safeu.utah.edu).

**University Counseling Center:** The University Counseling Center (UCC) provides developmental, preventive, and therapeutic services and programs that promote the intellectual, emotional, cultural, and social development of University of Utah students. They advocate a philosophy of acceptance, compassion, and support for those they serve, as well as for each other. They aspire to respect cultural, individual and role differences as they continually work toward creating a safe and affirming climate for individuals of all ages, cultures, ethnicities, genders, gender identities, languages, mental and physical abilities, national origins, races, religions, sexual orientations, sizes and socioeconomic statuses.

**Office of the Dean of Students:** The Office of the Dean of Students is dedicated to being a resource to students through support, advocacy, involvement, and accountability. It serves as a support for students facing challenges to their success as students, and assists with the interpretation of University policy and regulations. Please consider reaching out to the Office of Dean of Students for any questions, issues and concerns. 200 South Central Campus Dr., Suite 270. Monday–Friday 8am–5pm.