

Math 352
Partial Differential Equations
Spring 2011

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Office Hours:
MW 2:00 – 3:30
Th 1:30 – 3:00
after class, or by arrangement

Textbook: Powers, *Boundary Value Problems and Partial Differential Equations*, 6th edition.

Grades

Course grades will be determined on the basis of two midterms, a final exam, and weekly homework assignments. All graded activities will be combined into a percentage of possible points (details available if you wish) that will be converted to a course grade on a scale that is at least as generous as the following:

95 – 100	A	80 – 82	B–	63 – 65	D+
91 – 95	A–	78 – 80	C+	< 63	D, D–, or F (depending in part on a subjective assessment of your work)
89 – 91	B+	67 – 78	C		
82 – 89	B	65 – 67	C–		

Final exam A final exam for this course is scheduled for Monday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m. My strong preference is to give a take-home final exam instead, and if the course is going well (most students keeping up with the work and learning the material, etc.), then that is what we will do. However, I reserve the right to give an in-class final exam if it seems educationally appropriate; **do not** schedule activities that would prevent you from taking the final at the scheduled time until you receive a definitive answer. I will let you know whether we will have a take-home final in plenty of time for you to plan your exam week.

Midterm exams are scheduled for Thursday, February 10, and Tuesday, March 22.

Homework assignments will be given almost every week, due on Thursday. Late homework will not be accepted, except according to the extension policy (see back of this sheet). There will be opportunities in class to ask questions about homework. Depending on the flow of the course and student interest, a group project may be folded into the homework late in the semester.

Mathematica The computer algebra system *Mathematica* will be profoundly useful in this course, as we will need to compute hundreds of integrals and draw dozens of graphs. You will need to know only the basics (although of course it's great if you know more); if you are a beginner, there will be opportunities for you to learn what you need.

Calculators will not be needed for the class, although they will probably be convenient from time to time.

(Over)

Electronic copies

Electronic copies of many course documents and files (handouts, homework assignments, etc.) will be placed in a public folder for this course on File Server 1. This is the **only way** that homework assignments will be distributed. You are also invited to access other documents in the folder whenever you like.

Cell phones: OFF.

Policy on homework collaboration

Working together with other people is a great way to learn mathematics. I encourage you to work together on the homework. However, homework for this course is also graded, as part of your final course grade. Each student must write up his or her own homework solutions. By handing in homework solutions to be graded, you are promising that you took part in solving the problems, and that you are not just copying someone else's work. Handing in homework to be graded when you did not participate in solving the problems is a violation of the Honor Code.

Make-up Exams and Extensions on Assignments

Extensions on the due dates of assignments and individual re-scheduling of exams will be granted only for the following reasons:

- Serious and verifiable illness or medical emergency
- Participation in an *official* Rhodes College activity (e.g., course field trip, sports team travel)
- Religious holidays
- Major life event (such as birth, wedding, death) – your own or a close family member
- Other genuine emergency that is beyond your control

Notice that this is an extensive list. It does not, however, include situations in which the timing of an exam or assignment is simply inconvenient for you. In particular, there will be no accommodation for ordinary travel arrangements before or after college breaks.

If you wish to request an extension or re-scheduling because of a situation which can be known ahead of time, it is your responsibility to make arrangements in advance. Permission might not be given after the fact. You may be asked to make your request in writing.

In all cases, your instructor is the final judge of whether an accommodation is warranted.