

**Ordinary Differential Equations**  
**Fall 2018**

**MATH 365.01 (3 credits), M\_W\_F, 09:00P-09:50P, Wickersham 115**

**Prerequisites:** A grade of C– or better in MATH 311 (*Calculus III*) is the prerequisite for this course.<sup>1</sup>

**Instructor:** Dr. Buchanan

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Office Hours: 10:00A-10:50A (M\_W\_F), 02:00-02:50P (Tu\_Th), or by appointment

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**Textbook:** *Elementary Differential Equations*, 10th edition, William E. Boyce and Richard C. DiPrima, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 2012, ISBN: 978–1118157398

**Objectives:** MATH 365 provides an introduction to ordinary differential equations and their applications. Upon completion of this course the student will:

- be able to solve a variety of ordinary differential equations,
- appreciate the theory underlying the techniques of solution,
- be conversant with methods of applying ordinary differential equations in various applications.

**Course Contents:** Topics covered in this course may include the following.

- First order ordinary differential equations
  - Linear equations with variable coefficients
  - Separable equations
  - Modeling with first order equations
  - Autonomous equations and population dynamics
  - Exact equations and integrating factors
  - Existence and uniqueness theory
- Linear differential equations of second order
  - Homogeneous equations with constant coefficients
  - Fundamental solutions of linear homogeneous equations
  - Linear independence and the Wronskian
  - Complex roots of the characteristic equation
  - Repeated roots; reduction of order
  - Non-homogeneous equations; method of undetermined coefficients
  - Variation of parameters
  - Mechanical and electrical vibrations
  - Forced vibrations

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<sup>1</sup>Previously *Calculus III* was numbered as MATH 261.

- Series solutions of second order linear equations
  - Series solutions near an ordinary point
  - Regular singular points
  - Euler equations
  - Series solutions near a regular singular point
  - Bessel's equation
- The Laplace transform
  - Definition of the Laplace transform
  - Solution of initial value problems
  - Step functions
  - Differential equations with discontinuous forcing
  - Impulse functions
  - The convolution integral
- Systems of first order linear equations
  - Review of matrices
  - Systems of linear algebraic equations; linear independence, eigenvalues, eigenvectors
  - Basic theory of systems of first order linear equations
  - Homogeneous linear systems with constant coefficients
  - Complex eigenvalues
  - Fundamental matrices
  - Repeated eigenvalues

If time permits other topics may be covered as well.

**Attendance:** Students are expected to attend all class meetings per the [University Approved Guidelines](#). If you know beforehand that you will be absent from class on the day an assignment is due, you must complete and hand in the assignment prior to the absence. If you are unexpectedly absent the day that an assignment is due you must hand in the assignment at the beginning of the class hour on the first day that you return to class. If you know you will be absent on the day of a test, you must notify me before the time the test is scheduled in order to schedule a make-up test. Students who miss a test should provide a valid excuse, otherwise you will not be allowed to make up the test. No final exam exemptions.

**Homework:** Students are expected to do their homework and participate in class. Students should expect to spend a minimum of three hours outside of class on homework and review for every hour spent in class. Homework exercises help students review and reinforce concepts covered in class. The textbook exercises are arranged in generally increasing level of difficulty. Working only the low-numbered exercises will not prepare a student sufficiently for the test and final examination exercises. All assigned homework exercises must be worked until successful completion.

Throughout the semester, homework problems from sources outside the textbook will be assigned for you to work and submit your neatly written solutions for grading. There will be approximately one written/graded assignment per week during the semester.

**Tests:** There will be three 50-minute in-class tests and a final examination. The tests are tentatively scheduled for

1. Friday, September 21, 2018
2. Monday, October 22, 2018
3. Monday, November 19, 2018

The comprehensive final examination is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, 2018 from 08:00A–10:00A. I will not “curve” test or exam grades.

**Grades:** Course grade will be calculated as follows.

Tests	55%
Homework	20%
Exam	25%

Tests and the final examination will be graded individually on a 100-point scale. I keep a record of students’ test, homework, and exam scores. Students should also keep a record of graded assignments, tests, and other materials. As an example of the calculation of the numerical course grade, suppose a student’s three test grades were 87, 78, and 65 (out of a maximum of 100 points on each test), the student’s final examination grade was 71 (again, out of a maximum of 100), and five homework exercises were presented yielding grades of  $3/4$ ,  $2/4$ ,  $3/4$ ,  $4/4$ , and  $3/4$ . This student’s test average is  $76.\bar{6}$ . The homework grade is calculated as

$$20 \cdot \frac{\frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{4} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{4}{4} + \frac{3}{4}}{5} = 15.$$

The student’s numerical course grade is then

$$(76.\bar{6})(0.55) + 15 + (71)(0.25) = 74.92.$$

For the purposes of determining the final grade, any fraction is rounded up to the nearest whole number.

The course letter grade will be assigned as follows. I will not “curve” course grades.

90-92	A–	93-100	A	
80-82	B–	83-86	B	87-89 B+
70-72	C–	73-76	C	77-79 C+
60-62	D–	63-66	D	67-69 D+
			0-59	F

**Course Repeat Policy** An undergraduate student may not take an undergraduate course of record more than three times. A course of record is defined as a course in which a student receives a grade of A, B, C, D, (including + and –) F, U, Z or W. The academic department offering a course may drop a student from a course if the student attempts to take a course more than three times.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Memorandum to mathematics faculty from Dr. Charles G. Denlinger, Assistant Chair, Department of Mathematics, August 30, 2004.

The last day to withdraw from a course (and receive the W grade) is Friday, November 2, 2018 (signed withdrawal card must be presented to the Registrar's Office by 04:30P).

**Inclement Weather Policy:** If we should miss a class day due to a school [delay](#) or [cancellation](#), any activities planned for that missed day will take place the next time the class meets. For example, if a test is scheduled for a day that class is canceled on account of snow, the test will be given the next time the class meets.

**Cell Phones:** Silence (or better yet, turn off) all cellular telephones upon entering the classroom. Leaving class to initiate or receive a telephone call will not be tolerated and students doing so will not be re-admitted to the classroom until the following class meeting. Texting or tweeting during class interferes with the learning process. Students distracted by their cell phones are not engaged in class and will find, over the course of the semester, that learning and course grade will suffer.

**Title IX Reporting Responsibilities:** Millersville University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §1681, *et seq.*, and act in accordance with guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report to the University's Title IX Coordinator incidents of sexual violence shared by students. The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project. Faculty members are obligated to report to the person designated in the University Protection of Minors policy incidents of sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred.

Information regarding the reporting of sexual violence, and the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence, is available at <http://www.millersville.edu/social/eq/title-ix-sexual-misconduct/index.php>.

**Final Word:** Mathematics is not a spectator sport. What you learn from this course and your final grade depend mainly on the amount of work you put forth. Daily contact with the material through homework assignments and review of notes taken during lectures is extremely important. Organizing and conducting regular study sessions with other students in this class will help you to understand the material better.

No one can guarantee you success in this course. Your responsibilities and the instructor's expectation are outlined above. There will be no second chances, "do-overs", or extra credit assignments.