Instructor: Dr. David A. Jackson

My office is in Ritter Hall 010. My office hours this semester will include from 9:00 until 9:50 and from 1:10 until 3:00 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. I expect that I will also be in my office at other times and often available to answer questions. My office telephone number is 977-3633. The URL for my webpage is: http://math.slu.edu/~jackson See also http://mathcs.slu.edu/people/jacksoda
My e-mail address is: jacksoda@slu.edu


Homework: You are expected to READ this textbook. I have reason to hope that you will like the author’s style and enthusiasm. I will be assigning homework problems both from the textbook and beyond the textbook. A typical student should expect to spend approximately 6 hours a week outside of class working on mathematics. You should be aware that typical engineering problems requiring linear algebra very often are large enough to require computer technology. The homework exercises are generally contrived to illustrate the important ideas but still be brief enough to be quickly done without a computer or a calculator. For questions on exams, I will generally contrive brief questions like the homework questions. For more realistic questions, I will assign projects where you will have access to technology to perform much longer calculations. I very much encourage you to both work homework problems in groups and and also to discuss them in groups.

In very many cases, it is NOT a wise use of class time to answer individual homework questions during class time. Often, what the student asking the question REALLY needs is for me to LOOK at THEIR work and find the mistake. This is more quickly and efficiently done in my office. A second type of common individual question can often be phrased as “How do I start?” This question asked by an individual student is again best answered on an individual basis. If a GROUP of students working together has this question, then the question and its answer almost always IS worthy of class time. I WILL ALWAYS answer homework questions in class if the question is asked by a GROUP of students.

Projects: I will assign outside-of-class projects totalling 250 points. (This is one third of the points for the course.) Projects will generally pose questions that are too long to answer on an exam and require more technology than we have available in the classroom. You should regard these as an essential complement to the homework and exams. Several of the projects, especially those where students need to learn new technology, will be assigned as group projects.
**Group Work:** For some of the homework projects, I will require you to work in groups of two, three, or four students. All of the students in the group are expected to contribute to the work on the project and all members of the group will receive the same grade. You are not required to stay in the same group for the entire semester, but you are not required to change groups either.

**Grading:** The grading scale for this course is a 90-80-70-60 grading scale. I do try to give the benefit of the doubt to students who show marked improvement during the semester, to students who do exceptionally well on the final exam and to students who are visibly working very hard to learn the material.

**Exams:** There will be three hour exams each of which will count 100 points. Tentative dates for these are marked on the following calendar. The final exam will last two hours and will cover the entire course. It will be worth 200 points. The time and date for your final exam is set by the registrar and is announced in the semester’s schedule of classes. I have included this information at the bottom of the calendar. You should be careful that your travel arrangements at the end of the semester do not conflict with your final exams. In cases of illness and emergency, I do give make-up hour exams, but only to students who are doing passing work. Moreover, make-up exams are always harder than the original exams.

**Disabilities:** Students with disabilities will need to make prior arrangements through the University Disabilities Coordinator (Busch Student Center, room 331, 977-8885) if they have special needs for exams or lectures. The web site [http://www.slu.edu/x24491.xml](http://www.slu.edu/x24491.xml) is one online starting point.

**Cheating:** Students have the responsibility for conducting themselves in such a manner as to avoid any suspicion that they are improperly giving or receiving aid on any exam or quiz. I am authorized and encouraged to give an F for the entire course to anyone who is caught cheating. As a standard procedure, I will prepare a written report of any incident of cheating or suspected cheating. Copies of this report will be sent to the student, the student’s advisor, to all pertinent department chairpersons and college deans and to any appropriate committees formed to deal with academic misconduct. The deans or these committees may take further action, including possible dismissal from Saint Louis University and notations of reason on the student’s transcript. If you need further details about the responsibilities and the procedures for instructors, department chairs, deans and committees, you should read *Policy on Academic Honesty*, which is published by the College of Arts and Sciences.

See [http://www.slu.edu/x12657.xml](http://www.slu.edu/x12657.xml)