

# MATH 261 Fall 2014 Section 6 (CRN89444) Syllabus, Sept 18, 2014 Edition\*

Zachariah Etienne

## Instructor Contact Information

- Zachariah Etienne, zbetienne \*[<at>](mailto:zbetienne@mix.wvu.edu)\* mix.wvu.edu
- Office hours:
  - Armstrong Hall 409C
  - Tuesday and Thursday 1:30-2:30PM, or by appointment

## Course Website

- <http://math.wvu.edu/~zeticienne/>

## Text

- Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems (Tenth Edition) by W.E. Boyce and R.C. DiPrima.

## Course Objective

- Ordinary differential equations (ODEs) are used to describe the dynamics of a wide variety of phenomena in many scientific and engineering contexts. Motivated by such a wide variety of applications, this course will provide necessary training for analyzing and solving ODEs, primarily of first and second order.

## Grading

Grading will be based on the total number of points earned by a student. The points will be divided as follows:

- Homeworks: 10%
  - **Homework assignments will be due at the start of class on the following Tuesday.** *Only certain problems will be graded, at the choice of the instructor and after all homeworks have been collected. Full credit on a homework problem will only be given if the student shows work.* The lowest three homework scores will be dropped, to accommodate both anticipated and unanticipated absences. Please see Late Homework Policy below.
- Weekly Quiz: 40%
  - With the exception of the Midterm Exam week, **a short, timed quiz will be given at the start of class each Thursday.** Each quiz will contain material based on the previous homework set. The lowest three quiz scores will be dropped, to accommodate both anticipated and unanticipated absences. At the end of the allotted time, quizzes must be handed in, or a penalty will be assessed.
- Midterm Exam (Thurs, Oct 2, normal class time/location): 20%
- Final Exam (Tues, Dec 16, 3–5PM): 30%

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\*Note that this syllabus is subject to revision, at the option of the instructor. If revised, the new syllabus will not become official until the instructor has distributed it to students at a regularly-scheduled course meeting.

## Grading Scale

- A- to A+: 90—100%
- B- to B+: 80—89%
- C- to C+: 70—79%
- D- to D+: 60—69%
- F: Below 60%

## Late Homework Policy

Turning in homeworks on time is essential for doing well in this class, as each weekly quiz will draw on the most recent homework material.

- Up to 24 hours late: 20% score reduction
- 24–48 hours late: 50% score reduction
- More than 48 hours late: 75% score reduction

## Tentative Course Outline

- Week 1 (Aug 19 & 21): Boyce & DiPrima 1.1–1.3, 2.1–2.2
- Week 2 (Aug 26 & 28): Boyce & DiPrima 2.3,2.4,2.6
- Week 3 (Sep 2 & 4): Boyce & DiPrima 2.7,2.9 REVIEW ONLY,3.3,4.2
- Week 4 (Sep 9 & 11): Boyce & DiPrima 7.2–7.3
- Week 5 (Sep 16 & 18): Boyce & DiPrima 3.1, 3.3, 10.1
- Week 6 (Sep 23 & 25): Boyce & DiPrima 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6
- Week 7 (Sep 30 & Oct 2): Boyce & DiPrima 3.7, Oct 2: **Midterm Exam**
- Week 8 (Oct 7 & 9): Boyce & DiPrima 4.1, 4.3, 4.4
- Week 9 (Oct 16): Boyce & DiPrima 5.1, 5.2 (Oct 14 is Fall Break; University Closed)
- Week 10 (Oct 21 & 23): Boyce & DiPrima 6.1 (Class canceled on Oct 21)
- Week 11 (Oct 28 & 30): Boyce & DiPrima 6.2, 7.1, 7.2
- Week 12 (Nov 6): Boyce & DiPrima 7.3, 7.5 (Nov 4 is Election Day; University Closed)
- Week 13 (Nov 11 & 13): Boyce & DiPrima 7.4, 10.2
- Week 14 (Nov 18 & 20): Boyce & DiPrima 10.3, 10.4
- Week 15: Fall Recess
- Week 16 (Dec 2 & 4): Boyce & DiPrima 10.5, Final Exam Review
- Week 17 (Dec 9): Final class, Final Exam Review
- Week 18: **Tues Dec 16, 3–5PM: Final Exam**

## Academic Dishonesty

The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, I will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of this course. For the detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the Student Conduct Code [http://studentlife.wvu.edu/office\\_of\\_student\\_conduct/student\\_conduct\\_code](http://studentlife.wvu.edu/office_of_student_conduct/student_conduct_code). Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see me before the assignment is due to discuss the matter.

## Inclusivity Statement & Accommodations

“The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me [the instructor] and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Accessibility Services (293-6700). For more information on West Virginia University’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives, please see <http://diversity.wvu.edu>.”

**Students requesting special accommodations are required to inform the instructor at least 48 hours in advance of a test.**

## Electronic Device Policy

During class and during exams, cellular phones and other electronic devices (including but not limited to **calculators**, tablet computers, laptops, PDAs, MP3 players, Blackberrys) are not permitted, except with the consent of the instructor. All forbidden devices must be turned off before the beginning of the class period and placed out of sight (for example, in a backpack or purse) until the class has concluded.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in expulsion from the course.