

MA 26500 Fall 2026 Course Syllabus

Course Web Page for MA 26500:

<https://www.math.purdue.edu/academic/courses/semester/202710/ma26500/>

Learning Resources

- MyLab is required. Students will use it to do online homework.
- An electronic version of the textbook comes with MyLab, and a hard copy of the textbook is not required.
- Students should access MyLab through their [Brightspace](#) page.
- Students get a two-week grace period at the beginning of the semester. After the grace period expires, they have to buy access to MyLab.

Homework:

- There are 35 online assignments using *MyLab*. You can access *MyLab* through [Brightspace](#). The due dates are determined by your instructor.
- There are 36 written homework assignments. The due dates and how you submit the written homework assignments are determined by your instructor.
- Instructors should not assign or collect any assessments, including homework during the Quiet Period (December 7 -12).
- Except in cases of University approved reasons, late homework will not be accepted.
- At the end of the semester the **3 lowest online homework scores** and the **3 lowest written homework scores** will be excused.

Exams:

- There are two in-person common evening exams.
- EXAM 1 (Sections 1.1 – 3.3) Tuesday, 10/06/2026, 8:00-9:00 PM @ different locations
- EXAM 2 (Sections 4.1 – 5.7) Wednesday, 11/11/2026, 8:00-9:00 PM @ different locations
- The format of the midterms is a combination of multiple-choice questions and short answer questions.
- There is a two-hour comprehensive common final exam given during the final exam week (December 14-19). The time and location will be announced later.
- The questions on the final exam are all multiple-choice questions.
- **You are not permitted to use calculators, books, notes, electronic devices, websites, or to consult a peer or any other person on the exams.**
- **You are not allowed to take an alternate exam before the scheduled date and time of the actual exam.**

Policy on makeup and accommodated exams:

Makeup exams will be given only under circumstances described in and according to the Attendance Policy (see below). Due to the multi-section nature of the course, in order to secure the integrity of the exam, no makeup exam is possible before the scheduled date and time of the actual exam. In addition, generally, no makeup exam is possible once the exams are returned to the students (which is typically one week from the exam's date). For information on exam accommodations for students with disabilities, please visit the Department of Mathematics ADA information page as well as read the section Accommodations for Students with Disabilities below. Similar to makeup exams, accommodated exams cannot be taken before the date and time of the actual exam or after the exams are returned to the students.

Grades:

Course grades are determined from your overall total score as follows:

Online Homework	17%
Written Homework	8%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Final Exam	35%
Total	100%

The **maximum** percentages to get each grade are:

A+	97%
A	93%
A-	90%
B+	87%
B	83%
B-	80%
C+	77%
C	73%
C-	70%
D+	67%
D	60%

- For each of these grades, **it's possible that a somewhat lower percentage will be sufficient to earn that grade at the end of the semester.** (In other words, the lowest percentage to get, for example, an A *could be lower but will not be higher* than 93%.)
- **If there are some changes on the grading scale, the changes can be determined only after the final exam scores are available.**

Important Dates:

Students should consult [Purdue University Academic Calendar](#) to find information about important dates. Other important dates are

1. *Classes begin Monday, August 24*
2. *No class on Labor Day, Monday, September 7*
3. *Midterm Exam 1- Tuesday, October 6, 8:00-9:00 PM*
4. *October break, Monday - Tuesday, October 12-13*
5. *Midterm Exam 2 – Wednesday, November 11, 8:00-9:00 PM*
6. *Thanksgiving break, Wednesday - Saturday, November 25-28*
7. *Quiet Period, Monday - Saturday, December 7-12*
8. *Classes end on Saturday, December 12*
9. *Final Exams, Monday - Saturday, December 14-19 (to be scheduled by Purdue).*
10. *Grades due by 5PM Tuesday, December 22*
11. *Students should consult [Drop/Add dates](#) regarding the last days to add or drop a class.*

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Purdue University strives to make learning experiences accessible to all participants. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: drc@purdue.edu or by phone at 765-494-1247.

If you have been certified by the Disability Resource Center (DRC) as eligible for accommodations, you should contact your instructor to discuss your accommodations as soon as possible. More information can be found from [Students Accommodations and Services](#).

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that Purdue University holds. Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breeches of this value by either emailing integrity@purdue.edu or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information that is submitted provides the greatest opportunity for the university to investigate the concern.

Purdue prohibits academic dishonesty. According to University policy cheating, plagiarism, lying and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism and copying during examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid, abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest. If found guilty of academic dishonesty possible penalties can range from receiving a zero on the assignment to expulsion from the University. For more details about the Purdue policy on academic dishonesty see <https://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academic-integrity/index.html>

Academic Integrity:

Students caught cheating on an exam will get a zero on the exam and may get F in the course. All cases of cheating will be reported to the office of the Dean of Students. Students are encouraged to report to their professor if they have knowledge that other students have cheated on exams, and the more evidence they can present the better. Students can also report issues of academic integrity that they observe anonymously, through the OSRR by calling 765-494-8778 or emailing integrity@purdue.edu.

Policies on the Use of AI Tools in Homework

Students are encouraged to use available resources to support their learning. However, the primary goal of homework is to help you develop your own understanding of mathematical concepts and problem-solving skills.

- **Permitted Use:** You may use AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Wolfram Alpha, or similar) to **check your work**, explore alternative explanations, or review steps after you have attempted the problems yourself.
- **Prohibited Use:** Directly copying solutions generated by AI and submitting them as your own work is considered academic dishonesty. Homework solutions must reflect your own reasoning and understanding.
- **Expectation:** If you use AI assistance in any way, you should write your solutions in your own words and include all necessary steps. You are still responsible for being able to explain your work on exams, where no AI assistance will be allowed. Relying too heavily on AI may hurt your performance on exams, which carry more weight than homework.

Attendance Policy:

This course follows Purdue's academic regulations regarding attendance, which states that students are expected to be present for every meeting of the classes in which they are enrolled.

When conflicts or absences can be anticipated, such as for many University-sponsored activities and religious observations, the student should inform the instructor of the situation as far in advance as possible. For unanticipated or emergency absences when advance notification to the instructor is not possible, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible by email or phone. For cases that fall under the University's excused absence regulations, the student or the student's representative should contact or go to the [Office of the Dean of Students](#) website to complete appropriate forms for instructor notification. Under academic regulations, excused absences may be granted by [Office of the Dean of Students](#) for cases of grief/bereavement, military service, jury duty, parenting leave, or emergent medical care. For details, see the [Academic Regulations & Student Conduct section](#) of the University Catalog website.

Absences outside of those covered by the University's excused class absence regulations are at the instructor's discretion. Purdue expects each student to be responsible for class-related work missed due to an unavoidable absence. Students should contact their instructors directly to discuss the absence and opportunity to complete missed coursework. This work may be made up at the discretion of the instructor.

Classroom Guidance Regarding Protect Purdue:

Any student who has substantial reason to believe that another person is threatening the safety of others by not complying with Protect Purdue protocols is encouraged to report the behavior to and discuss the next steps with their instructor. Students also have the option of reporting the behavior to the [Office of the Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). See also Purdue University Bill of Student Rights and the Violent Behavior Policy under University Resources in Brightspace.

Mental Health/Wellness Statement:

If you find yourself beginning to feel some stress, anxiety and/or feeling slightly overwhelmed, try [WellTrack](#). Sign in and find information and tools at your fingertips, available to you at any time.

If you need support and information about options and resources, please contact the [Office of the Dean of Students](#). Call 765-494-1747. Hours of operation are M-F, 8am-5pm.

If you find yourself struggling to find a healthy balance between academics, social life, stress, etc. sign up for free one-on-one virtual or in-person sessions with a [Purdue Wellness Coach at RecWell](#). Student coaches can help you navigate through barriers and challenges toward your goals throughout the semester. Sign up is completely free and can be done on BoilerConnect. If you have any questions, please contact Purdue Wellness at evans240@purdue.edu.

If you're struggling and need mental health services: Purdue University is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of mental health support, services are available. For help, such individuals should contact [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) at 765-494-6995 during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or by going to the CAPS office of the second floor of the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH) during business hours.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life. For more information, please see Purdue's full [Nondiscrimination Policy Statement](#).

Commercial Note Taking in Classes:

Notes taken in class are generally considered to be "derivative works" of the instructor's presentations and materials, and they are thus subject to the instructor's copyright in such presentations and materials. No individual is permitted to sell or otherwise barter notes, either to other students or to any commercial concern, for a course without the express written

permission of the course instructor. See University Senate Document 03-9, April 19, 2004.

Course and Instructor Evaluations:

During the last two weeks of the semester, you will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this course and your instructor(s) through online course evaluations. On Monday of the 14th week of classes, you will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online site. You will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. Your participation in this evaluation is an integral part of this course. Your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. We strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.

Other Issues:

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TAs via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

Related Considerations and Guidelines.

1. *Keep your cell phone on to receive a Purdue ALERT text message.*
2. Emergency preparedness is your personal responsibility. Purdue University is actively preparing for natural disasters or human-caused incidents with the ultimate goal of maintaining a safe and secure campus. Let's review the following procedure
 - For any emergency text or call 911.
 - There are more than 300 Emergency Telephones (aka blue lights) throughout campus that connect directly to the Purdue Police Department (PUPD). If you feel threatened or need help, push the button and you will be connected right away.
 - If we hear a fire alarm, we will immediately evacuate the building. Do not use the elevator. Go over the evacuation route (see specific Building Emergency Plan).
 - If we are notified of a Shelter in Place requirement for a tornado warning we will stop classroom or research activities and shelter in the lowest level of this building away from windows and doors.
 - If we are notified of a Shelter in Place requirement for a hazardous materials release, we will shelter in our classroom shutting any open doors and windows.
 - If we are notified of a Shelter in Place requirement for an active threat such as a shooting, we will shelter in a room that is securable preferably without windows.
 - **(NOTE: Each building will have different evacuation & shelter locations. The specific Building Emergency Plan will provide specific locations and procedures)**