MA 26600 Ordinary Differential Equations, Spring 2026

Course Information

Course Web Page for MA 26600: https://www.math.purdue.edu/ma26600

Check this page often for important information and announcements.

Course Description: Credit Hours: 3.00. First order equations, second and *n*-th order linear equations, solution by Laplace transform, systems of linear equations. It is preferable but not required to take MA 26500 either first or concurrently. Not open to students with credit in MA 26200, 27200, 36000, 36100, or 36600.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Understand the properties of and able to solve first-order differential equations, linear differential equations of second and higher orders, and linear systems of differential equations.
2. Understand and able to apply basic numerical methods for solving initial value problems.
3. Understand the properties of Laplace transforms and able to apply to solving differential equations and initial value problems.
4. Apply differential equations to mechanical, physical, and biological models.

Textbook: Edwards, Penney, Calvis, *Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems: Computing and Modeling*, 6th Edition, MyLab Math with Pearson eText

- ISBN: 9780137540501, 18-Week Access Card
- ISBN: 9780137540129, Rental Edition

Lectures: Your instructor will inform you how his/her lectures will be presented during the Spring 2026 semester. Reading the textbook before lectures is expected and is strongly recommended in order to succeed in this course.

Homework: There are 36 online assignments using Pearson's *MyLab Math*. You can access *MyLab Math* through your section's Brightspace page. Due dates for the assignments are set by the individual instructors. There are also handwritten problems to be found in *MyLab Math*. Your instructor will inform you of due dates and how to turn your handwritten problem sets in.

Policy on Late Homework: 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 will be dropped. No handwritten scores will be dropped.**

Homework Score Appeal: If you believe there is a computer error in the grading of your homework problems, please contact your instructor by email.

Midterm Exams: There are two midterm exams:

EXAM 1	Tue, Feb 24	6:30-7:30 pm in ELLT 116
EXAM 2	Tue, Apr 7	6:30-7:30 pm in ELLT 116

More information will be announced closer to each exam.

Final Exam: Two-hour FINAL EXAM will be scheduled by the university in the week Mon, May 4–Sat, May 9.

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 multisection 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	22%
Written Homework	6%
Two midterms @ 18% each	36%
Comprehensive Final Exam	36%

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

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
97%	93%	90%	87%	83%	80%	77%	73%	70%	67%	63%	60%

For each of these grades, **it is possible that at the end of the semester a somewhat lower percentage will be enough to get that grade**. (In other words, the lowest percentage to get, for example, an A **could be lower** but **will not be higher** than 93%.)

Calculators and Electronic Devices: No calculators or electronic devices of any kind are not allowed during the exams. You may use calculators on homework assignments.

Collaboration, Use of Online Resources and AI Tools: Collaboration and the use of outside resources can support learning when done responsibly. Homework is an opportunity to develop the independent understanding required for quizzes and exams, where no outside aids are permitted.

All submitted work must be written in the student's own words. Any assistance from classmates, textbooks, online resources, AI tools and large language models (such as ChatGPT or similar systems) must be fully disclosed, including the specific sources and the type of help received. Submitting work that is not one's own without disclosure will result in zero points on the assignment and may lead to an academic misconduct report.

Important Dates: Please see the Purdue University Registration Calendars for a comprehesive list of important dates

Last day to drop a course without it appearing on record: (no authorization required)	**Mon, Jan 26**
Last day to drop a course and receive a W: (advisor approval required)	**Thur, Apr 16**

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 encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: drc@purdue.edu or by phone: 765-494-1247, as soon as possible.

If the Disability Resource Center (DRC) has determined reasonable accommodations that you would like to utilize in this class, you must send your Course Accommodation Letter to the instructor. Instructions on sharing your Course Accommodation Letter can be found by visiting: https://www.purdue.edu/drc/students/course-accommodation-letter.php

Additionally, you are strongly encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss implementation of your accommodations.

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 (ODOS) website to complete appropriate forms for instructor notification. Under academic regulations, excused absences may be granted by **ODOS** for cases of grief/bereavement, military service, jury duty, parenting leave, or emergent medical care. 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.

Mental Health/Wellness Statement: 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 on 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.

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 or exam to expulsion from the University. For more details about the Purdue policy on academic dishonesty, see https://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academic-integrity/.

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: Toward the end of this semester, you will be provided with an opportunity to give feedback on this course and your instructor. Purdue uses an online course evaluation system. You will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site and will receive a prompt to complete the survey when you login to Brightspace. Your participation is an integral part of this course, and your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. We strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.

Emergency Preparedness: In the event of a major campus emergency or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar. Relevant changes to this course will be posted on the course web page https://www.math.purdue.edu/ma26600.

You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

Purdue's website on Emergency Preparation and Planning covers topics such as Severe Weather Guidance, Emergency Plans, and a place to sign up for the Emergency Warning Notification System. You are encouraged to download and review the **Emergency Preparedness for Classrooms** document (PDF or Word).