

MA 266 - (Eddie Price's Section) - Section Policies

Spring 2019

GROUND RULES: The Ground Rules found on the official course website

(<http://www.math.purdue.edu/MA266>) are *course-wide* policies that we must all follow. Please be familiar with these.

MIDTERMS: Midterm 1 will be in class on Tuesday, February 12. Midterm 2 will be in class on Tuesday, March 26. Even though the course schedule is a bit flexible, these dates will not change, except in the event that class must be cancelled. Midterm 1 will include every lesson completed on or before Tuesday, February 5th. Midterm 2 will include every lesson not covered on midterm 1 that is completed on or before Tuesday, March 19. Midterm 2 may require you to be familiar with basic techniques from lessons covered on midterm 1, but those techniques will not be the focus on midterm 2. If you miss an exam, please contact the instructor immediately. You may be permitted to take a make-up exam with or without a penalty.

HOMEWORK DUE DATES: The class schedule is a little more flexible for MA 266 than other courses. The homework assignment for a particular lesson will be due the next class period after the lecture for that lesson is finished. (For example, suppose lesson 2 is finished on a Thursday. The homework for lesson 2 would be due the following class session, on Tuesday.) Each homework assignment contains WebAssign problems *and* hand-written homework. The WebAssign problems will be due at 11:59 pm on the day it is due. The hand-written homework problems will be due by the end of the class session on the day it is due.

LATE HOMEWORK POLICY: Generally speaking, late homework will *not* be accepted. In the case of an emergency, contact the instructor. The instructor may choose to accept late homework for extenuating circumstances. If you have a planned absence, please be aware that homework may always be turned in early.

PROJECTS: There are three MATLAB projects that you will have to complete this semester. They are listed on the Assignment Sheet as part of certain lessons. You may ignore what lessons they are associated with. I will determine and announce the due dates for these projects.

HOMEWORK GRADING: Each homework assignment on WebAssign is graded out of 20 points, and each hand-written homework assignment is graded out of 20 points. WebAssign has algorithms which will grade those assignments automatically. The hand-written homework assignments will be graded by an undergraduate grader who is hired to grade for the course. For each hand-written assignment, two questions will be graded for correctness, and the rest of the assignment will be graded for completion. Each question graded for correctness will be graded out of 7 points, and completion will be graded out of 6 points.

WEIGHTS FOR HOMEWORK/PROJECTS/QUIZZES: As you can see in the Ground Rules, 200 points will be assigned for Homework, Projects, and Quizzes. We will not have quizzes this semester in this section. Collectively, all points you earn on homework will account for 140 points in this section. (So even though each homework assignment is graded out of 20 points, this does not mean each homework assignment will actually count as 20 points toward your final grade.) The lowest three WebAssign homework assignments and lowest three hand-written homework assignments will be dropped. Each project will be graded out of 20 points and will count as 20 points toward your final grade. No projects will be dropped.

PROJECT EXPECTATIONS: Projects are expected to be typed and organized neatly. You are expected to give complete explanations in your project using complete sentences. You should treat these projects as being documents you would present to someone in a future job, if you were asked to do these projects. If you collaborate with any other students in MA 266 on the projects, please include their names on your project as well, listed as collaborators. The mathematical content of each project will be graded out of 14 points, and the neatness and overall presentation will be graded out of 6 points.

COLLABORATION AND PLAGIARISM: You are welcome and encouraged to collaborate with other students in MA 266. You should work together to figure the problems out, but you should write up your own solutions independently. If your hand-written homework or projects contain a significant amount of material that is identical to another student's material, then it could be considered plagiarism. (Note: if there are homework problems, for instance, with one obvious way to solve them, then everyone doing the problem the same way will not be considered plagiarism. Usually, cheating is most often caught when multiple students make the same *mistake* in their work.)

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH: If, at any point during the semester, your physical and/or mental health impairs your abilities to succeed in this course, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. We will be able to discuss and try to figure out the best way of handling the situation. If you are concerned about the physical and/or mental health of anyone in the Purdue community, please fill out the Student of Concern Report found here: <https://www.purdue.edu/advocacy/faculty/incident.html>

PIAZZA DISCUSSION BOARD: Our section has a Piazza discussion board (<https://www.piazza.com/purdue/spring2019/ma266>). Please use this resource to ask questions about anything relating to the class, especially for homework help. This allows me and other students to help you if you have a question. When asking a question, please include a picture/screenshot of the problem statement and also your thoughts/work so far about the problem. When answering a question, please do not simply explain the solution (unless there is a minor mistake in the work) - give a hint to help get the person unstuck. You have the option to post anonymously to fellow students, but I will always be able to tell who you are.

EXIT TICKETS AND CLASS PARTICIPATION: While you will not be graded on class participation, it is expected. I will sometimes ask students to discuss certain concepts with a partner or in a group. Please actually participate. Research suggests that people learn better when they actively participate in situations like this. Additionally, even though we do not have quizzes in this class, I will ask for an "exit ticket" from class everyday, so please bring some paper with you that you are ready to write on and turn in.