

## MATH 254 SYLLABUS

**Professor:** Bob Grone, GMCS 521; (619) 594 7246; grone@math.sdsu.edu  
**Office Hours:** TuTh 2-3 PM. Also by appointment.

**Text:** (required) Elementary Linear Algebra, 9<sup>th</sup> ed, by Howard Anton:  
Wiley Publ. Co.

**Course Description:** This is a first course in linear algebra/ matrix theory. The intended audience includes mathematics majors, statistics majors and computer science majors, among others. The object is to acquaint students with basic terminology and concepts of linear algebra and matrices as well as the use of these topics in solving linear systems, higher dimensional geometry and other areas. Besides computation, the course will involve some skill in algebra and some (short) proofs.

**Sections to be covered:** 1.1-1.7, 2.1-2.4, 3.2-3.3, 4.1, 5.1-5.6, 6.1-6.3, 6.5-6.6, 8.1-8.2, 8.4-8.5, 7.1-7.3

**Homework:** Homework will be assigned from each section that is covered in lecture, but not collected or graded.

**Exams:** There will be three midterm exams worth 100 points each. These will be announced at least one week in advance. A comprehensive final examination worth 200 points will be given 1030-1230 on Tuesday, May 18.

**First Exam:** The first exam will be on Tuesday, March 2. It will cover chapter 1 (systems of linear equations, matrices and matrix operations, special types of matrices) and chapter 2 (determinants and their properties).

**Grading:** The course grade is determined by the student's point total, which is the sum of the scores on the three exams and the final (500 points possible). Grades may be "curved" at the discretion of the professor.