MTH 305.001, Intro to Numerical Methods
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Fall 2015

Professor:  Dr. Lynn Greenleaf
Office:  340 Mathematics building
Office Phone:  936.468.1882
Office Hours:  (or by appointment)

Class Times & Place:  2-3:15 TR, Room 202, Math Building
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Course description:  Basic numerical and computational techniques used in solution of mathematical problems in the real world; approximation of functions, roots and systems of equations, numerical differentiation and integration, interpolation and curve fitting, and machine computation. This course is intended to be a mathematical introduction to the theory and practical use of certain basic numerical methods that often arise in applications. Some theoretical understanding is critical to the proper practice of numerical analysis because no numerical method works 100% of the time. Thus when a method fails, the theory behind the method can often illuminate what went wrong and perhaps give insights into alternative approaches that may work better for the given problem.

Course requisites and co-requisites:
MTH 234 and CSC 102 or equivalent.

Course Requirements:
- Two in-class exams (If a student must miss an exam due to an excused absence, special arrangements should be made in advance.)
- A comprehensive final exam (lasting 2 hours on Thursday, December 14, 1-3 pm.)
- Homework will be assigned and collected.
- Class attendance and participation:  Students are expected to attend all class meetings, arriving on time.

Communication:  Check your university email regularly, as you may be sent reminders, assignments, or announcements.

Exam Schedule:  (Tentative)  Bring your university ID card to all exams.
Midterm 1 – Thursday, October 5
Midterm 2 – Thursday, November 9
Final Exam – Thursday, December 14, 1-3 pm

Grading Policy:  50%  Exams
                 25%  Homework
                 25%  Comprehensive Final Exam

Grading Scale:  90% - 100%:  A
                 80% - 90%:  B
                 70% - 80%:  C
                 60% - 70%:  D
                 Below 60%:  F
Course outline:

- Taylor Series (5%)
- Representation of Numbers (5%)
- Error Analysis (5%)
- Equations of One Variable (15%)
- Interpolation and Polynomial Approximation (15%)
- Numerical Differentiation and Integration (15%)
- Numerical Methods for Systems of Equations (10%)
- Splines (15%)
- Differential Equations (10%)
- Optimization (5%)

Department syllabus: Please read the official Department of Mathematics & Statistics syllabus for MTH 305 at http://www2.sfasu.edu/math/courses/syllabi/mth305syllabus.pdf.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all class meetings, arriving on time. If you are absent, you are responsible for determining what you missed and for being prepared for class when you return. When class begins, roll is taken, and if you are not in your seat, you will be counted absent. Leaving class early without notifying the professor in advance will result in your being counted absent for the class session. Late reading questions are not accepted. Bring your university ID card to all exams.

AARC: The Academic Assistance and Resource Center (AARC) located on the first floor of the Steen Library offers several types of academic assistance. All services are FREE. See the AARC web pages for more information http://libweb.sfasu.edu/aarc.

Relevant University Policies

Academic Integrity (Policy A-9.1)
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

The penalty for a student found cheating on any part of an assignment, quiz, or exam in this class will range from a grade of zero on the work to a grade of F in the course, and may result in additional, more severe disciplinary measures. A student who allows another to copy his work and the student copying the work are both guilty of cheating. Do your own work. Do not show your completed work to others. Do not allow others to copy your work.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp.
Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of C.

Students with Disabilities
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices.

Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program (see the Student Conduct Code, policy D-34.1 http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_conduct_code.asp). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed.