

Math-1520, Spring 2011

Instructor: Bruce Piper (Prof. Piper), piperb@rpi.edu, 276-6892, Office: Amos Eaton 309
Initial Office Hours: Thursday 1:00-3:00 and by appointment. (Check the course web page for changes and updates)

Teaching Assistant: Mark Woods
Please check the course web page for his office hours.

Text:: *Applied Mathematics for the Managerial, Life and Social Sciences, 6th Edition* (Required)

Course Web Page: <http://homepages.rpi.edu/~piperb/1520/>
Visit this page several times a week throughout the course to check the daily schedule, office hours, study guides, homework, and for any updates.

Objectives/Topics: This class will cover linear systems of equations, linear programming, sets and basic probability.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon successfully completing the courses, students will be able to demonstrate:

- basic matrix manipulation skills.
- basic counting and reasoning skills to determine probabilities.
- the ability to use basic definitions, rules and techniques to solve selected problems.
- the ability to make mathematical models of selected applied problems described in words and solve these.

Lectures: The lectures will go over the major concepts and examples. Students should read the text to complete their understanding. Part of the lecture notes will appear on the web page, the rest will be delivered only in class.

iClickers: There will be iClicker questions in most lectures. Students can get up to 10% extra credit by participating in the iClicker questions throughout the semester. A weighted average of participation and correctness will be used to determine the iClicker score. This is the only portion of the grade that will be scaled and curved.

Recitations: During the recitations, the teaching assistant will go over problems and ask you to work problems. During each recitation, you will be asked to work and submit a problem similar to one that the teaching assistant works. These problems will be graded and each will count towards 1% of your final course grade.

Exams: There will be 4 in-class exams and there will be no calculators allowed. Partial credit will be given. There will be a study guide for each exam posted on the course web page. There will not be a final exam in this course. As posted on the daily schedule on the course web page, the exams will be on the dates: 2/14, 3/06, 4/10, 5/08

The questions on the exams will all be very very similar to either those on the study guide or to iClicker questions given in class.

Note: Exam 1 is Tuesday, February 14th

Study Guides: Study guides for the exams will be available on the course web page. It is important to do these questions as they are covered in class as there will likely be far too many questions to prepare for the exam all at once.

Appeals: Changes to exam grades will be made only if something has been overlooked. All appeals must be made within 1 week of the time the exam is returned to the class. Please pick up your exams on a timely basis.

Attendance: Missing an exam or a recitation without a valid excuse results in a grade of zero and cannot be made up. Missing lectures has a negative impact on student exam scores based on past statistics. The only opportunity for extra credit in this class is through the iClicker questions given in lecture and students must attend to get a chance at this credit.

For excused absences, please contact or visit the office of Student Experience. The web page for this is at <http://se.rpi.edu/policies/ea/>

This page outlines some sample cases of what does and does not qualify as an excuse.

Academic Integrity: Student-teacher relationships are built on trust. Acts which violate this trust undermine the educational process. The Rensselaer Handbook of Student Rights and Responsibilities defines various forms of Academic Dishonesty and you should make yourself familiar with these. Students are encouraged to work together outside of class in preparing for exams by working the questions from the study guide. Exams and the problems given in recitation must be done individually and cheating will result in a grade of zero and a report to the Dean of Students. Changing an answer on any submitted work after it has been graded will result in a zero on the assignment and a report to the Dean of Students. Repeat offenders will fail the class.

Grades: The material in this class will be weighted as follows:

4 In-Class Exams	86% (21.5% for each exam)
14 In-recitation problems	14% (1% for each recitation)
In-class iClicker participation (Extra Credit)	Up to 10%

Using these weights and the percentages for each item, the final course score will be computed and then based on this score, letter grades will be assigned as follow: 93% + is an A; 90%-92% is an A-; 87%-89% is a B+; 83%-86% is a B; 80%-82% is a B-; 77%-79% is a C+; 73%-76% is a C; 70%-72% is a C-; 65%-69% is a D+; 60%-64% is a D; 0%-59% is a F.

Weekly Schedule: Please check the course web page.

Study Guide for Exam 1: Please check the course web page at <http://homepages.rpi.edu/~piperb/1520/>