

**Instructor information:**

Instructor: Dr. Allison H. Moore

Office: Harris Hall 4149

Office hours: Mondays 12-1 PM and Tuesdays 10-11 AM (or by appointment)

Email: moorea14@vcu.edu

Website: <http://www.people.vcu.edu/~moorea14>

**Course information:**

MATH 310 - 005. Linear Algebra (Mathematics). Term: Fall Quarter, 2019. CRN: 32823

Lectures: 11:00 am - 11:50 am MWF, Harris Hall 2125

**Prerequisites:**

MATH 201 with a minimum grade of C.

**Textbook:**

The official textbook is *Elementary Linear Algebra, Eighth Edition* by Larson.

ISBN: 978-1-305-65800-4

Note: You are *not* required to purchase or rent a physical copy of the textbook for class. The only purchase you must make is a digital subscription to WebAssign, which comes with access to an eBook version of the textbook online. Some students prefer a paper edition for studying; for this, you can rent the textbook, purchase it, or alternatively, find a cheaper paper version of an older edition textbook online.

**Course website:**

A Blackboard page is set up for the course:

<https://blackboard.vcu.edu>

Important announcements, a copy of the syllabus, other class documents, and any current developments or changes to the class plan will be posted to Blackboard. Check this website regularly and make sure you receive email announcements that go through Blackboard. We will use WebAssign for online homework. This is a different website than Blackboard.

**WebAssign Homework**

Online homework is to be accessed and submitted for automatic grading with WebAssign. I still recommend that you work out these problems with paper and pencil, and keep track of your work in a folder or binder with your class notes. Remember that homework is just practice to help you understand the material, and you may want to review it at a later date.

**To set up WebAssign:**

1. Go to <https://webassign.net/login.html>

2. Click on “Enroll with Class Key in the top right corner.
3. Enter this class key: **vcu 5191 8497**
4. Verify that the course information displayed is correct.

WebAssign set-up instructions are also provided on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vM\\_XTu83c8c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vM_XTu83c8c)

**Note:** At some point you will be prompted to create a Cengage account. Cengage (the company that makes WebAssign) may try to sell you upgrades (Cengage Unlimited) and extra content. None of this is necessary or required for the class. The only thing that is required is regular WebAssign access, which should cost around \$100. If you have more than one class this semester that also uses WebAssign, it might be less expensive purchase Cengage Unlimited option, but for most students this will not be the case.

### Exams:

Midterms will be written during class hours in the usual lecture location. The final exam will also be held in the same location as lectures, but at a different time. Final exam times are set by VCU here: <https://rar.vcu.edu/exams/index.html>.

Midterm 1	Wednesday, September 18	11:00-11:50 AM	Harris Hall 2125
Midterm 2	Monday, October 21	11:00-11:50 AM	Harris Hall 2125
Midterm 3	Wednesday, November 20	11:00-11:50 AM	Harris Hall 2125
Final Exam	Wednesday, December 11	12:30-3:20 PM	Harris Hall 2125

Calculators, computing devices, notes and books are prohibited on midterm and final exams. Any exceptional materials to be permitted during midterm exams will be specified and made explicit by the instructor.

**Make-up exams** If you miss an exam and have a valid, documented excuse, I will work with you to coordinate a make-up exam through the VCU Campus Testing Center: <https://clc.vcu.edu/campus-testing-center/>.

**An early final will not be given to accommodate travel plans.** Do not plan to travel during the final exam period.

### Grades:

Your grade will be determined by the following:

Homework	15%	Averaged together
Midterm 1	20%	Not cumulative
Midterm 2	20%	Not cumulative
Midterm 3	20%	Not cumulative
Final	25%	Cumulative

**About curves:** The default bracketing of letter grades is as follows:  $A$  : 90–100%,  $B$  : 80–89%,  $C$  : 70–79%,  $D$  : 60–69%, and  $F$  : 0–59%. You should plan on estimating your progress throughout the semester with this letter grade distribution.

Depending on the severity of the midterm and final exam performance, I may choose to apply a “curve” at the **end of the semester**. What this means is that I reserve the right to adjust the letter grade brackets. However, your letter grade will **never** drop below the initial generic bracketing. While my typical curve might improve your letter grade over the raw numerical score, it usually doesn’t change the grade much. In general, it is not a good strategy to count on the curve to raise your grade.

## Lecture Schedule

This is an approximate lecture plan and is subject to change.

Chapter	Sections	Comments/Topics
4,5	4.1 - 5.1	Review of vectors and linear combinations, dot products.
1	1.1 - 1.3	Systems of Linear Equations.
2	2.1 - 2.4	Matrices and matrix operations.
2	2.5 - 2.6	Markov chains other applications of matrices.
–	–	Midterm 1
3	3.1 - 3.4	Determinants.
4	4.2 - 4.8	Vector spaces.
–	–	Midterm 2
5	5.2 - 5.4	Inner Product Spaces.
6	6.1 - 6.5	Linear Transformations.
7	7.1 - 7.4	Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors.
–	–	Midterm 3
8	8.1 - 8.5	Topics on Complex Vector Spaces (but only if time permits).

## Academic Help:

VCU has great resources to help you succeed.

- My office hours are your first stop. I am happy to answer questions, work examples and help you understand the homework.
- The Campus Learning Center at VCU offers appointment, drop-in and group tutoring in undergraduate courses across the disciplines.  
<https://clc.vcu.edu/tutoring/>
- Within WebAssign, you can create and practice extra problems that are similar to the assignments in order to better prepare for exams.

**Phones and devices:**

Please be sure that all phones other electronic devices are turned off or silenced and stowed away for the entire duration of each class. Pulling out your phone doesn't just distract you – it distracts the other students sitting next to you and is disrespectful to the classroom environment.

**Honor System: upholding academic integrity**

The VCU Honor System policy describes the responsibilities of students, faculty and administration in upholding academic integrity. According to this policy, “Members of the academic community are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty, ethics and integrity at all times.” Students are expected to read the policy in full and learn about requirements here: <https://conduct.students.vcu.edu/vcu-honor-system/>

**Students with disabilities:**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, require that VCU provide “academic adjustments” or “reasonable accommodations” to any student who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. To receive accommodations, students must register with the Office of Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity on the Monroe Park Campus (828-2253) or the Division for Academic Success on the MCV campus (828-9782). Please also visit the Student Accessibility and Educational Opportunity website via <https://saeo.vcu.edu/> and/or the Division for Academic Success website via <https://das.vcu.edu/> for additional information.

Once students have completed the registration process, they should schedule a meeting with their instructor(s) and provide their instructor(s) with an official accommodation letter. Students should follow this procedure for all courses in the academic semester.

**Extended Syllabus:**

Students should visit <http://go.vcu.edu/syllabus> and review all syllabus statement information. The full university syllabus statement includes information on safety, registration, the VCU Honor Code, student conduct, withdrawal and more.