

# MATH 1554 COURSE OVERVIEW

- Course organization
  - Lectures and studios
  - Midterms and final exam
  - Textbooks & online homework
- Participation
- Course websites and GT accounts
- FAQ/Questions
- Section 1.1



*These slides will be made available in Canvas later today: don't try to copy everything in these slides into your notes*

# WHAT IS MATH 1554?

## **One Overall Goal**

*Prepare students for more advanced courses that use Math 1554 as a pre-requisite.*

To this end, we

1. explore fundamental concepts from a mathematical perspective
2. discuss study strategies that help students succeed in this course and beyond

## **Topics Include**

Linear systems, determinants, eigenvalue problems, orthogonality and least squares, matrix decompositions, Google Page rank.

## COURSE INSTRUCTOR: DR. MAYER

- [greg.mayer@gatech.edu](mailto:greg.mayer@gatech.edu), Skiles 265
- Academic Professional in School of Math
- Been teaching 1554 for past few years
- Reasons I love teaching 1554
  - Tends to involve many interactions with students
  - Required course for many programs
  - For many GT students: 1st college level math course and/or course after integral calculus
  - Abstract, conceptual understanding
  - Part of the Distance Math Program
  - Diversity of GT students



## OFFICE HOURS

- Times:
  - Wednesdays 4:00 to 6:00 in Skiles 265
  - Wednesdays from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm (starts in 2<sup>nd</sup> week of semester, URL will be posted in Canvas announcements)
- If you cannot make it to one of those times, send me an email with a few times when you are free to set up appointment.

# LECTURES AND STUDIO

## Lectures

- Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8:00 – 8:50
- Introduce new material and review for exams

## Studio

- Tuesdays, Thursdays, 8:00 – 8:50
- TAs will assume you have attended lecture and completed homework
- **Active:** students should be solving problems

I recommend that students download worksheets and lecture slides from Canvas and work through them throughout semester.

## LECTURE RECORDINGS (QH AND A SECTIONS ONLY)

- Every lecture and studio is recorded
- Recordings typically uploaded a few hours after session
- Recordings viewable from the Media Gallery (available through Canvas)

## GRADE BREAKDOWN

- 4% Participation, 4% Homework, 4% Quizzes, 70% Midterms, 18% Final Exam
- GT only issues letter grades on transcripts
- Numerical grades converted to letters using standard intervals:
  - A: [90%, 100%]
  - B: [80%, 90%)
  - C: [70%, 80%)
  - D: [60%, 70%)
  - F: [0%, 60%)

# MIDTERMS AND QUIZZES

## **Dates (all dates in syllabus)**

- Midterms: 9/12, 10/10, 11/7
- Quizzes: 8/29, 9/26, 10/24, 11/21

## **Logistics**

- Midterms are 50 minutes, 8:00 to 8:50  
Quizzes are 20 minutes, 8:00 to 8:20
- The topics covered stated in syllabus
- If unable to take midterm/exam (illness, conflict with fall break, etc.) contact me ASAP, you may be able to write make-up, details in syllabus.
- Sample quizzes/midterms give you format/length



## FINAL EXAM

- Local students: common final exam Dec 10 at 6pm, location to be determined
- Distance high school students have a two part final exam:
  - Part I: Thu Dec 5, 2019, 8:00 am to 8:50 am
  - Part II: Fri Dec 6, 2019, 8:00 am to 8:50 am

## MORE EXAM/QUIZ/FINAL LOGISTICS

- No formula sheet, closed book, no calculators.
- All exams graded and returned electronically to their **GT account** when grades are released.

## COURSE RELATED WEBSITES

**Canvas:** [canvas.gatech.edu](https://canvas.gatech.edu)

- grades, announcements, syllabus, lecture slides, worksheets, exam review materials, etc

**Homework & Textbook:** link to MyMathLab in Canvas

**1554 Master Website:** [pwp.gatech.edu/math1554](https://pwp.gatech.edu/math1554)

- everything here also on Canvas
- public website with worksheets, schedule, syllabus

## PARTICIPATION

- Meant to help students be successful in Math 1554 by encouraging them to
  - engage in lectures
  - be familiar with course policies
  - read the textbook before lecture
  - give feedback on the course.
- Two ways participation will be measured
  1. Canvas Surveya and Quizzes (CSQ) students take in Canvas
  2. Turning Point (TP)
- Students can do either or both CSQ and TP, highest score is used

# PARTICIPATION

- Canvas Surveys and Quizzes
  - Students do not have to take them in a proctored setting.
  - Open at least one week before they are due.
  - Multiple attempts allowed
  - Most require reading the book on material that will be covered in an upcoming lecture
- TurningPoint
  - access through Canvas or on mobile device in TurningPoint app
  - questions assigned and only open during lectures, graded only for completion

## PARTICIPATION: ABSENCES AND GRADING

- No participation in 1<sup>st</sup> and last week of semester
- At least the lowest 2 scores are dropped for each
- All Canvas Surveys and Quizzes open today

## EMAIL

- Personal email addresses will not be used by GT to deliver course information to students.
- Check your GT email account for correspondence from GT.
- Technical issues with GT email? Click the “contact us” link at bottom of [buzzport.gatech.edu](http://buzzport.gatech.edu).
- Please send your instructor email using your GT account.

## PIAZZA

- Online forum/discussion.
- Can access Piazza from Canvas.
- Please use Piazza:
  - to ask and answer questions related to the course
  - in a **positive and constructive manner**
- All 1554 classes use the same Piazza site
- Note: different instructors use different participation activities



## TEXTBOOK AND ONLINE HOMEWORK

- Lay, *Algebra and Its Applications*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.
- Bundled with another textbook you will use for Multivariable Calculus (MATH 2550 or 2551)

## TEXTBOOK AND ONLINE HOMEWORK

- When signing up for MyMathLab, please set your **GT Account username (eg gburdel3) to your USERID for MML.**
- Because we are using Canvas, you do not need a Course ID.
- If you are asked for a Course ID, or get stuck at any point in accessing mymathlab, let us know on Piazza, we will help you through getting started
- Homework tends to be due before material is covered in studio. This is intentional: we want students to be more prepared for studio.

## FAQ

- Can we have solutions to worksheets?

*Nope. The primary goal of 1554 is to prepare you for upper level courses. We want students to get used to solving exercises that do not have solutions.*

- If I need/want help with something, what is the best way to reach out?

**Technical issues:** Piazza

**Conceptual questions:** Piazza

**Personal matters (illness/absence):** email your instructor

## HOW TO SUCCEED IN 1554

- For many students, 1554 is their first college level math course, and their first math course after integral calculus

*Adapting study strategies is a challenge for some students*

- General advice:
  - *Find ways to make your studying more efficient:*
    - *review the textbook and start homework in advance of lectures*
    - *ask questions on Piazza and/or office hours*
  - *prepare for exams by:*
    - *solving many problems, check your answers with others*
    - *solving all exam review materials*
    - *solve additional problems from textbook*