

MATH 241M – MATHEMATICAL SOFTWARE--MATLAB

Instructor: Patrick Staley
Office: 390D
Office hours: 10:15-11:00AM Mon Wed Fri
Website: <http://www.staley-classes.org>
Email: pstaley@swccd.edu
Telephone: 421-6700, ext 5521

Text: An Introduction to Technical Problem Solving with MATLAB v.7, by Sticklen and Eskil.

Prerequisites: Math 251 with grade of C or better.

Class Hours: noon-1:15PM Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 426D
February 20 through March 29, 2007

Course Description: An introduction to the mathematical software package known as MATLAB. MATLAB is a high-level language and interactive environment that enables you to perform computationally intensive tasks faster than with traditional programming languages such as C, C++, and FORTRAN. Projects for this course are taken from the mathematics, science, and engineering fields. This is a hands-on computer software and programming class.

Recommended Software: The software for this class is MATLAB 7 student edition. It should be available on the computers in room 426D. If you are science or engineering or mathematics student or teacher I recommend that you buy your own copy of MATLAB 7. It may be available from the SWC bookstore. If not, you can buy it at the UCSD bookstore or online. The correct product is shown at http://www.mathworks.com/academia/student_version. I bought my copy for \$100.

Website: <http://www.staley-classes.org> contains current notes to students including information on exams, an updated syllabus, lecture notes, project assignments, the current grade sheet (password protected), answers to the note taking assignments, electronic tutorials or movies (pending), and other relevant information. You will need Adobe Reader (5.0 or higher; instructions for downloading Adobe Reader are on the website). So that you receive website update notifications please send an email message to stserv@list.mr-ideahamster.com with "subscribe M241MS07" in the body. If you are viewing this syllabus in electronic form you may click [here](#) to send the appropriate email message for the notification list.

Homework: There will be a homework assignment or project assignment after every class. Repeated failure to complete homework assignments or projects will result in the student being dropped for non-performance. Homework assignments will be listed in the Lesson Outlines posted on the website for this class.

Grading Policy: Your final grade will be a composite of several exams and several projects. The projects are more heavily weighted than are the exams. Each project and each exam will receive a letter grade. Your course grade will be a weighted average of those letter grades using the conventional scale: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, and F=0. The website will contain a copy of the most current grade sheet including your most current aggregate score. There will be no make up tests.

Knowing the correct answer to an exam question is insufficient—the correct answer must be written on the answer sheet. Exam answers that confuse the grader will be marked wrong.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend all lectures and labs. If a student misses excessive class time, he/she may be dropped. Attendance is taken with a seating chart.

Electronic Devices: During lecture please turn off all phones, pagers, music devices, tape recorders, etc. During lab time you may use your MP3 player, Ipod, or other music listening device as long as it does not disturb the other students.

Special Accommodations: Southwestern College recommends that students with disabilities discuss academic accommodations with their professors during the first two weeks of class. An alternate form of this syllabus is available upon request.

Exclusion Policy: A student may be dropped from the class for excessive absences, non-performance, cheating, or disruptive behavior.

Cheating: Behavior indicative of cheating will be handled by an oral exam, the outcome of which will be one of: F grade on the exam, F grade for the semester, dropping the class, or reinstatement of the score. This penalty also applies to any accomplice.

Final Exam time: Thursday March 29 noon-1:15PM

Initial Assignment: Buy the textbook; print out lesson 1 from the website; if you have a copy of MATLAB at home get started with lesson 1.