

MATH 252 – Introduction to Differential Equations

Course Description from Bulletin: Linear differential equations of order one. Linear differential equations of higher order. Series solutions of linear DE. Laplace transforms and their use in solving linear DE. Introduction to matrices. Systems of linear differential equations.(4-0-4)

Enrollment: Required for AM majors and some engineering majors

Textbook(s): Zill, *A First Course in Differential Equations with Modeling Applications*, 10th ed., Brooks/Cole

Other required material: None

Prerequisites: Math 152

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to classify and solve first-order DEs and IVPs of various types: especially separable, exact, linear, and others reducible to them.
2. Students will be able to solve higher-order linear DEs and IVPs having constant coefficients via the method of undetermined coefficients and variation of parameter.
3. Students will be able to obtain power series solutions (about regular points) of second-order linear DEs having variable coefficients.
4. Students will be able to manipulate Laplace transforms and to solve linear IVPs using them.
5. Students will be able to solve systems of first-order linear DEs.
6. Students will be able to solve a variety of physical problems modeled by first-order and linear second-order IVPs.

Lecture schedule: Three 75 minute lectures per week

Course Outline:

	Hours
1. Review of methods for first-order DEs	4
2. Linear Equation of Higher Order	12
a. Initial-value and boundary-value problems	
b. Linear dependence and linear independence	
c. Solutions of linear equations	
d. Homogeneous linear equations with constant coefficients	
e. Undetermined coefficients	
f. Variation of parameters	
3. Application	4
a. Free undamped motion	
b. Free damped motion	
c. Driven motion	
d. Power series solutions, solutions about ordinary points	
4. Laplace Transforms	13
a. Laplace transform and inverse transform	
b. Translation theorems and derivatives of a transform	

- c. Transforms of derivatives, integrals and periodic functions
- d. Applications
- e. Systems of linear equations
- 5. Introduction to Matrices 10
 - a. Basic definitions and theory
 - b. Gaussian elimination
 - c. Eigenvalues
- 6. Systems of Linear First-Order Differential Equations 12
 - a. Preliminary theory
 - b. Homogeneous linear systems
 - c. Distinct real eigenvalues, repeated eigenvalues, complex eigenvalues
 - d. Variation of parameters

Assessment:	Homework	10-25%
	Quizzes/Tests	40-50%
	Final Exam	25-30%

Syllabus prepared by: Andre Adler and Warren Edelstein

Date: 12/15/05, updated 11/01/12