MATH 15a: Applied Linear Algebra
Fall 2017

Devin Murray
Section 2
Tuesday and Thursday 3:30 PM-4:50 PM
Gerstenzang 122
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Office hours: to be announced
Course Assistants: TBA

Text. Linear Algebra & Its Applications 5th ed by Lay

Prerequisites. MATH 5a and permission of the instructor, placement by examination, or any mathematics course numbered 10 or above. Students may take MATH 15a or 22a for credit, but not both. If you HAVE NOT taken Math 10a and 10b, please come meet with me at the beginning of the semester.

Grades. Your grade in the course will be based on the following:

(1) Homework (20% of your grade)
   • Homework assignments will be collected once a week.
   • No late homework will be accepted, but your three lowest homework grades will be dropped.
   • I encourage you to discuss homework problems with your classmates, but you must write up your own solutions.

(3) Three midterm exams (50% of your grade)
   • The lowest midterm will be dropped.
   • The remaining two are worth 25% each.

(4) Final exam (30% of your grade)

Calculators. You should have access to a scientific calculator (an online one is OK). Calculators are not allowed allowed during exams or quizzes. You do not need a graphing calculator.

LATTE. All course materials for Math 15a will be available online on LATTE. Log in at http://latte.brandeis.edu using your Unet username and password.

Office hours. You are encouraged to use my office hours and/or the course assistants’ office hours whenever you have questions about the course material. If you can’t attend my office hours, don’t hesitate to ask for an appointment at another time.

Four-Credit Course (with three hours of class time each week). Success in this 4 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend a minimum of 9 hours of study time per week in preparation for class (readings, papers, discussion sections, preparation for exams, etc).

Students with disabilities. If you are a student who needs academic accommodations because of a documented disability you should contact me and present your letter of accommodation as soon as possible. If you have questions about documenting a disability or requesting academic
accommodations you should contact Beth Rodgers-Kay in the Office of Academic Services at 63470 or at brodgers@brandeis.edu. Letters of accommodations should be presented at the start of the semester to ensure provision of accommodations. Accommodations cannot be granted retroactively.

**Academic Integrity.** You are expected to follow the University’s policy on academic integrity, which is distributed annually as Section 4 of the Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (see http://www.brandeis.edu/studentaffairs/srcs/rr/index.html). Instances of alleged dishonesty will be forwarded to the Department of Student Development and Conduct for possible referral to the Student Judicial System. Potential sanctions include failure in the course and suspension from the University. If you have any questions about how these policies apply to your conduct in this course, please ask.

**Learning Goals for Math 15a.** Students in Math 15a will:

Work with vectors and matrices, solve systems of linear equations, determine linear independence/dependence, find a basis and compute dimension, study linear maps, study change of basis, compute determinants, and find eigenvectors and eigenvalues.