

MATH 2610 FALL 23, SECTION 02

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

1. GENERAL INFORMATION.

Instructor: Marcelo Disconzi. Office: Stevenson Center 1515. Office phone: 322-7147.

email: marcelo.disconzi@vanderbilt.edu.

Lecture time and location: Tue–Thu, 1:15–2:30pm, Stevenson Center 1313.

Course webpage:

<https://www.disconzi.net/Teaching/MAT2610-Fall-23/MAT2610-Fall-23.php>

Office hours: Tue, 3–5pm, Thu 11am–12pm, or by appointment.

Math Office: Stevenson Center 1326.

2. COURSE INFORMATION.

2.1. **Textbook.** *Fundamentals of Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems*, by Nagle, Saff, Snider, 7th edition (required). Student’s Solutions Manual (optional).

2.2. **Description.** First- and second-order differential equations, applications. Matrix methods for linear systems; stability theory of autonomous systems; existence and uniqueness theory. Intended for mathematics and advanced science majors.

3. GRADING POLICY AND EXAMS DATES.

The course will have three exams, the first exam constituting 20% of the grade and the other two exams 30% of the grade each. There will be no final exam. Homework assignments will count 20% toward the the grade. You will be allowed to take a make-up test only in very special circumstances.

If you miss an exam, contact the instructor as soon as possible.

Homework will be assigned on a regular basis and must be turned in on the date specified on the course webpage on Brightspace (<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/brightspace/>). Among all assigned problems, a small subset will be graded for accuracy, and that will count toward 50% of the homework score. The other 50% of the homework grade will be based on the remaining problems where students have to show a genuine attempt to find a solution, although these problems will not be checked for accuracy. Notice that you will not be told ahead of time which problems will be strictly graded, and, therefore, you ought to show detailed work in all homework questions.

Description	Date and Location	Points
Test 1	Thu, Sept 21, in class	20
Test 2	Thu, Nov 2, in class	30
Test 3	Thu, Nov 30, in class	30
HW	to be posted on the webpage	20
TOTAL		100

Important: There will be no no final exam.

Extra credit work may be assigned. Extra credit assignments will not carry a specific number of points towards your total grade, *unless otherwise specified*. The primary goal of such extra

assignments is to help the course instructor decide on borderline cases. For example, suppose your final grade corresponds to a B+, but it is sufficiently close to the cutoff for an A-. In such a case, having done all or most of the extra credit problems may lead the instructor to decide that you deserve a little boost in your grade, giving you an A-.

If this policy is not clear, please talk to your instructor during his office hours.

Grades will be assigned according to the following:

Final grade range (rounded)	Letter grade
95–100	A
90–94	A–
87–89	B+
84–86	B
80–83	B–
77–79	C+
74–76	C
70–73	C–
67–69	D+
64–66	D
60–63	D–
<60	F

Some important dates:

Date	Description
Oct 19-20	Fall break
Nov 18–26	Thanksgiving holidays
Dec 1–7	Dead week

3.1. Homework problems and schedule. An up-to-date schedule that includes the due date of homework assignments will be maintained on the course webpage.

4. COURSE POLICIES.

4.1. Calculators. Calculators or other electronic devices will not be used on the tests.

4.2. Classroom Policy. Students are allowed to use electronic equipment in class for their academic benefit, such as tablets, laptops, etc. If you do so, make sure your equipment is in silent mode.

4.3. Honor Code. All work submitted for credit must be the student's own and is subject to the provisions of the Vanderbilt Honor Code. Details can be found at the Honor Council web site: <https://studentorg.vanderbilt.edu/honorcouncil/>.

4.4. Classroom recording policy. The use of technologies for audio and video recording of lectures and other classroom activities is allowed only with the express permission of the instructor. In cases where recordings are allowed, such content is restricted to personal use only unless permission is expressly granted in writing by the instructor and by other classroom participants, including other students. Personal use is defined as use by an individual student for the purpose of studying or completing course assignments. When students have permission for personal use of recordings, they must still obtain written permission from the instructor to share recordings with others.

4.5. **Accommodation Procedure.** A student who needs course accommodations due to a disability, special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, or has emergency medical information that needs to be shared with the instructor, should contact the instructor as soon as possible. Equal Opportunity and Access (EOA) (<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/ea/>) at Vanderbilt provides specific accommodations for students with physical or learning disabilities. Upon receiving appropriate documentation from the student, EOA will make arrangements with the instructor for the accommodations.

4.6. **Attendance.** The student who misses a class meeting is responsible for any assignments and/or announcements made. **Office hours will not be utilized to re-teach material presented in class.** The stated attendance policy of the College of Arts and Science applies in this course: Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings of classes in which they are enrolled; they have an obligation to contribute to the academic performance of all students by full participation in the work of each class. The faculty of the College of Arts and Science recognizes that occasions arise during the academic year that merit the excused absence of a student from a scheduled class or laboratory during which an examination, quiz, or other graded exercise is given. Examples include participation in sponsored university activities (e.g., debate team, varsity sports), observance of officially designated religious holidays, serious personal problems (e.g., serious illness, death of a member of the student's family), and matters relating to the student's academic training (e.g., graduate or professional school interviews). Conflicts arising from personal travel plans or social obligations do not qualify as excused absences.

4.7. **Anonymous feedback.** Students are encouraged to bring suggestions and to discuss with the course instructor any concerns they may have, including something they think is not being properly handled in the course. But if you do not feel comfortable about doing that, you have the opportunity to send some anonymous feedback on the course webpage.