

Dordt College Mathematics Department

MATH 204-02, Differential Equations

Fall 2016 Syllabus

2016-17 Catalog Data:	MATH 204 Differential Equations (3 credit hours) (Fall) An introduction to the theory and techniques of solving differential equations and the use of these techniques in applied problems. Prerequisite: grade of C– or higher in Mathematics 153.
Textbook:	Blanchard, Devaney, and Hall, <i>Differential Equations</i> , 4th ed., Brooks/Cole Cengage Learning, 2011. (ISBN 978-495-56198-9)
Instructor:	Professor Douglas De Boer, office location SB2608, office telephone 712.722-6245, e-mail: Douglas.DeBoer@Dordt.edu Prof. Office hours: virtual open office policy.
Course Objectives and Outcomes:	<i>Creational Structure:</i> Students will understand numeric and mathematical aspects of creation to the extent that they are able to solve several types of differential equations including first- and second-order linear differential equations with constant coefficients (homogeneous or not) <i>Creational Development:</i> Students will also be able to apply computer programs to visualize direction fields, phase lines and planes, and to get numerical solutions to differential equations.
Prerequisites by topic:	Calculus including techniques of integration, sequences, and series.
Computer use:	Java applets such as “dfield” and “pplane” will be used for visualization of direction fields and phase-plane plots. Matlab and Octave are the supported development environments for writing algorithms. Students are encouraged (but not always required) to use programs such as Mathcad or SageMath for homework solutions or to verify homework answers when appropriate. An NCEES-approved calculator is recommended. A non-graphing calculator will be required for tests and the final exam. Approved models are listed at http://ncees.org/exams/calculator . Other models may be approved for this course. Ask the instructor.
Academic Integrity:	Students must do their own work. This course is subject to the College’s policies on academic integrity. (http://www.dordt.edu/campus_life/student_handbook/general_information.shtml#academic_integrity .) Also see the homework standards posted on the course web page.
Accommodations:	Students who require assistance or accommodations based on the impact of a documented disability must contact Marliss Van Der Zwaag, the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities to access accommodations. Telephone 722-6490, e-mail Marliss.VanDerZwaag@dordt.edu
Means of Evaluation:	Homework will be due at the start of most class periods (10%), Three Tests (18% each), One or two project reports (12 % total, 6% each if there are two reports), Final Exam (24%) See http://homepages.dordt.edu/ddeboer/F15/GDS.HTM for full details on Prof. De Boer’s grading methods.

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Course Outline

Dates			Class
			Meets MWF Noon to 12:50 PM in room SB2602
8/24	8/26		Introduction: What is a DE? What is a solution to a DE? What is a model? <i>Text: Chapter 1, Section 1 (1.1)</i>
8/29	8/31	9/02	Separation of variables, direction fields, Euler's method. <i>Text: 1.2, 1.3, 1.4</i>
9/05	9/07	9/09	Existence and uniqueness of solutions, equilibria, phase line, bifurcation <i>Text: 1.5, 1.6, 1.7</i>
9/12	9/14	9/16	Linear equations, integrating factors <i>Text: 1.8, 1.9</i>
9/19	9/21	9/23	Integrating Factors, Project, <i>Text: Chapter 1.9</i>
Friday, 9/23 Test			Test on Friday
9/26	9/28	9/30	Systems of differential equations, direction fields for systems <i>Text: 2.1, 2.2</i>
10/03	10/05		Damped harmonic oscillations and other special systems. <i>Text: 2.3, 2.4</i>
(no class Friday, 10/07)			
10/10	10/12	10/14	Existence and uniqueness of solutions (revisited), SIR model of an epidemic. <i>Text: 2.6, 2.7</i>
10/17	10/19	10/21	Linear systems <i>Text: 3.1</i>
Wed., 10/19 Test			Test on Wednesday
10/24	10/26	10/28	More on linear systems, Straight line solutions <i>Text: 3.1, 3.2</i>
10/31	11/02	11/04	Phase portraits, complex, repeated real, and zero eigenvalues, <i>Text: 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6</i>
11/07	11/09	11/11	Forced harmonic oscillators, sinusoidal forcing functions, resonance <i>Text: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3</i>
11/14	11/16	11/18	Introduction to the concept of a transform, Laplace transforms <i>Text: 6.1,</i>
Wed., 11/16 Test			Test on Wednesday
11/21			Discontinuous functions and the Laplace transform
(no class 11/23, 11/25)			<i>Text Chapter 6.2</i>
	11/30	12/02	Second-order functions, the Dirac delta function, and Laplace transforms
(no class 11/28)			<i>Text Chapter 6.3, 6.4</i>
12/05	12/07		Convolution <i>Text 6.5</i>
(no class Friday, 12/09)			
Monday, 12/12			Final exam, 10:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

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Note on the class schedule

The actual class schedule may vary from the content shown on the previous page to accommodate student interests and abilities. The schedule shown is merely a reasonable projection based on past offerings of this course.

Audience and Role of this Course

This course is taught at the sophomore level. It is intended for mathematics, engineering and computer science majors. It is required for engineering majors.

Missed Tests or Exams

Put this course's tests and final exam on your calendar.

During the first two or three weeks of classes students may negotiate to change the test dates for the entire class to avoid a conflict for any one student.

Negotiation of a changed test date may possibly occur at other times if there is good cause. However in the week before a test Prof. De Boer is very reluctant to negotiate the test date. If your reasons are sound for requesting a special test date, Prof. De Boer may schedule a special test time just for you. This special test time will usually be in advance of the regular test date. In this case Prof. De Boer reserves the right to give you a different test than he gives the others.

If you arrive late to a test you must still finish at the normal time.

This applies no matter how late you arrive. Additionally, Prof. De Boer reserves the right to treat any test started late as a test entirely skipped.

If you miss a test entirely the test will go in the grade book as a blank score which will count as an "F." At the end of the semester Prof. De Boer will reassess the situation. He might choose to estimate what he thinks you might have earned on the test based on any evidence he can find relevant to the situation. Any grade given may be a docked grade if negligence is a factor in missing the exam. A malfunctioning cell phone alarm is an example of negligence. (Set a backup alarm for important times.)

If a test is missed due to illness Prof. De Boer will decide how to act on a case-by-case basis and may wait until the end of the semester to make a final decision. It is to your advantage if you **report your illness to student services** in as timely a way as is reasonable. Grounds for claiming illness are fever, nausea, etc. Unfortunately, a "bad cold" is too common to automatically exempt you from a test. If you have a cold come to the test as prepared as possible and talk to Prof. De Boer before the test. You will probably have to take the test.

If you become ill during a test Prof. De Boer will decide how act on a case-by-case basis and may wait until the end of the semester to make a final decision on how to handle the case.

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Late work

Start assigned work promptly because most of the work assigned for this course is expected to take more than one evening to finish. Often you will need to **make use of office hours** to get questions answered. Working the assignments over several evenings and applying what you learn in class and via office visits helps you use time efficiently.

All work is expected to be on time. If you expect to need extra time, at your earliest opportunity try negotiating an extension with Prof. De Boer so that your work remains on time. Prof. De Boer expects professional management of your due dates. He does not routinely keep track of “days late” and mark off for such, as might occur in high school. (Engineering companies demote or fire engineers for unexpectedly late work.) Any late work in this course will be handled on a case-by-case basis within the guidelines below:

Anything handed in late will be accepted for possible grading. If there is no pattern of lateness and Prof. De Boer or the grader has time, the work may be graded with the next regular assignment with no deduction for lateness. Otherwise he might hold it for a while, often until the end of the semester. If he decides to hold it, it will not be returned to you and the blank grade in the grade book will usually function equivalently to an “F.”

For work that is held, if in the judgment of Prof. De Boer, all the following conditions are true, he will grade the late work or estimate a grade for the late work. To be graded or estimated, the these must be true:

- The work must be late for a reasonable cause.
- There is no pattern of carelessness or continuing late work.
- A non-zero grade on the item must matter relative to your course grade.

If a pattern of late work develops, Professor De Boer will warn the student. After that warning if the problem is not resolved, **a discounted course grade might result** and/or the student may be classified as “uncooperative” which could lead to dismissal from the course.

Class Participation

Participation is expected of all students, thus Prof. De Boer does not routinely grade class participation or attendance. He does respond to non-participation. If there is a problem Prof. De Boer will talk about it privately with you. Usually mere attendance is adequate participation, presuming you are not sleeping in class or hung over or distracted by video games on your cell phone, etc. If class participation becomes a problem that is not resolved, then a discounted course grade may result.

A large fraction of this document, from this point onward, is copied from the Student Handbook as per policy in Dordt College’s “Syllabus Checklist.” There is some additional information specific to this course as well. Additional information specific to the course is in the normal typeface. *Copied information is rendered in italic text (except this sentence is not copied).*

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Attendance

Students are expected to be present for every class and laboratory period. Penalties for absence from class are left to the instructor. No designated number of skips is permitted.

Student Responsibility: *Students shall notify each professor concerning the reason for absence prior to or immediately upon returning to class or in accordance with the instructor's method of accounting for absences. Students shall notify student services concerning all illnesses.*

Professor De Boer expects to be notified by e-mail at least a day in advance any time when you will have to miss a class for a scheduled event of higher priority. An excused absence will most likely be granted. An excused absence does not automatically extend any due date. In addition to the options listed below, unexcused absences can be grounds for being classified as an "uncooperative student" which could lead to dismissal from the course. Professor De Boer will give a warning before invoking the uncooperative student process.

Unexcused absences are defined as *failing to notify the instructor of the reason for the absence, or if the instructor deems the reason as illegitimate.*

Faculty initiatives: *The instructor may contact student services to check on the illness record of the students. They should also alert student services and contact the student directly concerning excessive absences, and must, if asked, report attendance patterns. Any instructor may, after due warning and according to guidelines established in the class syllabus, penalize the student by reducing the semester grade by a given percentage.*

Student Services Responsibility: *Normally, student services does not notify instructors concerning student illness. Student services may alert instructors to serious problems. Decisions to inform instructors about serious problems will be made balancing the need to respect confidentiality and the responsibility to keep instructors appropriately informed about their students. Any student with serious problems is strongly advised to work closely with student services and follow the process to insure adequate communication between all parties in as efficient a way as possible.*

Excused Absence for Activities: *Students have obligations in many realms, so special care shall be taken not to demand commitments for participation in extra-curricular events that cause neglect in other areas. Sponsors/coaches shall inform students from the beginning of the time and effort expected of them. Sponsors/coaches shall demand a minimum of absences from other classes, restrict student involvement to only those crucially involved, and make efforts to choose a time/date for the event that is least invasive of classroom or lab time. In the case of conflicts, resolution shall be the responsibility of the sponsor/coach and the instructor with no penalty to the student (The appeals process outlined in the section titled Complaints Regarding Instruction in the Student Handbook shall be used if needed). The sponsor shall email faculty and student services a list of names, dates, and activities in advance of the event. The student must contact the instructor and make arrangements for any missed work.*

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Academic Integrity

Dordt College is committed to developing a community of Christian scholars where all members accept the responsibility of practicing personal and academic integrity in obedience to biblical teaching. . . .

Academic Dishonesty. Students found to be academically dishonest will receive academic sanctions from their professor (from a failing grade on the particular academic task to a failing grade in the course), who will report the incident and the sanction given to the Student Life Committee for possible institutional sanctions (from a warning to dismissal from the college).

Appeals in such matters will be handled by the student disciplinary process as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Definitions

Academic dishonesty at Dordt College includes, but is not limited to, the following behaviors:

Stealing / Plagiarizing: copying another's work or ideas and creating the impression that they are one's own by failing to give proper credit or citation. This includes. . . [See the student handbook for the list.

http://www.dordt.edu/campus_life/student_handbook/general_information.shtml#academic_integrity]

Cheating: unauthorized use of any study aids, equipment, or another's work during an academic task. This includes using unauthorized aids or other equipment during an examination; copying or looking at another individual's examination; taking or passing information to another individual during or after an examination; taking an examination for another individual; allowing another individual to take one's examination; stealing examinations.

All graded academic tasks are expected to be performed on an individual basis unless otherwise stated by the instructor.

An academic task may not be submitted by a student for course credit in more than one course without the permission of all instructors.

Lying / Fabricating: the intentional, unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation during an academic task. This includes changing or adding an answer on an examination and resubmitting it to change the grade; inventing data for a laboratory exercise or report.

Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: knowingly allowing or helping another individual to plagiarize, cheat, or fabricate information.

In Prof. De Boer's courses students may verbally discuss assigned work but may not show ungraded work to each other. This policy applies to the whole course, not just homework. Students may not share their course-related personally-created computer work in any form except with team members, and except they may verbally discuss it with anyone. More detail on this policy can be found on the Web at <http://homepages.dordt.edu/ddeboer/integrity/#DYOW>.