

**Math 235-03 & 04: Introduction to Linear Algebra, Fall 2014:  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:30-12:45 & 1:00-2:15, LGRT 121**

Professor: Rob Kusner, LGRT 1435G (Office [54]5-6022) & LGRT 1535 (Ye Olde GANG Lab [54]5-4605)

- e-mail: [profkusner@gmail.com](mailto:profkusner@gmail.com)
- website: [www.gang.umass.edu/~kusner/class/classes.html](http://www.gang.umass.edu/~kusner/class/classes.html)
- webwork: [webwork2.math.umass.edu/webwork2/F14\\_MATH\\_235\\_3](http://webwork2.math.umass.edu/webwork2/F14_MATH_235_3)
- office hours: Tu 2:15-4:30 (by appointment) and right after class.

The text, *Linear Algebra with Applications*, 4e/5e by Otto Bretscher, is appealing because of its emphasis on the geometric aspects of linear algebra. Please **read** Appendix A (on vectors), the preface and the text outline. We shall cover all the topics indicated there, through chapter 7.

On my ASCII webpage [www.gang.umass.edu/~kusner/class/235hw](http://www.gang.umass.edu/~kusner/class/235hw) you may find the schedule of topics (updated weekly), free hints and advice, or what extra (non-WeBWoRk) homework is due when.

Class attendance is **expected**. Besides the value of class participation, there may be a few in-class quizzes which you won't want to miss!

Study for this course at least **9** hours per week, going over your notes (soon after class) with pen in hand, checking our calculations. Read the suggested problems in the book first, think about them as you read the text, then do these problems. Repeat this process. Repeat this process. Repeat this....

There will be a mini-midterm on **7 October** at 7PM in Thompson 104, a (common) mid-term exam covering material through part of chapter 4 at 7PM on **4 November** in 131 Marcus, and a (common) comprehensive final exam at 10:30AM on **10 December** in the Totman Gymnasium.

Meeting deadlines is essential. Homework will be assigned weekly on **WeBWoRk**, in class, and from the text. It will normally be discussed on Tuesdays (please remind me by asking). No late homework will be accepted, and there are no "make-up" quizzes, but a few homework and quiz scores will be disregarded, so do not panic about missing an assignment here or there.

Absence from an exam (mid-term or final) is not excusable except under extreme circumstances; such absence makes life difficult for everyone.

Grading will be based in roughly equal parts on the homework (25%), on the mini-midterm and quizzes (25%), on the common mid-term exam (25%), and on the final exam (25%).