

**Math 235-02: Introduction to Linear Algebra, Spring 2014:
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 12:20-1:10, 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
- website: www.gang.umass.edu/~kusner/class/classes.html
- webwork: webwork.math.umass.edu/webwork2/MATH_235_3_S14
- office hours: MoWeFr 11:37-12:17 (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 you can find the schedule of topics (updated weekly), free hints and advice, or what 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 an evening mini-mid-term (7PM on 12 March), a (common) mid-term exam covering material through chapter 4 (at least section 4.1) at 7 PM on 2 April in 131 Morrill2, and a (common) comprehensive final exam in

Meeting deadlines is essential. Homework will be assigned 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 and quizzes (30%), on the mini-mid-term (20%), on the common mid-term exam (25%), and on the final exam (25%).