

Term: Spring, 2021      **Syllabus: MA 260-2F Intro. to Linear Algebra**

**Primary Instructor:** Dr. Jeanne S. Hutchison

**Contact Information:** [hutchiso@uab.edu](mailto:hutchiso@uab.edu)

**Preferred Method of Contact:**

Email is the preferred method of contact if you have questions. Please expect a response within 24 hours on weekdays and a slower response on weekends. I will expect the same of you. Include **MA 260** in the subject line of your email for a faster response. I am available to meet with you virtually via Zoom by appointment or during my virtual office hours (see below).

**Virtual Office Hours:**

**Hours:**

Wednesday & Friday 10:00-11:00 am

**ZOOM Contact:**

<https://uab.zoom.us/j/922-808-8766>

**Instructional Method:**

**Remote:** This class will be conducted virtually using a combination of live and recorded content through Canvas, Zoom, and other tools using the Canvas Learning Management system. Check course canvas page often for announcements and assignments. Students should reserve the days and hours listed in the Class Schedule for live (online synchronous) course elements, as determined by the teacher. Students will not attend class on-campus.

**Course Information:**

**Assigned Times for Class:**

TR 3:30 to 4:45 PM

**Prerequisite:**

Grade of C or better in MA 126 Calculus II, or equivalent

**Credit:**

3 semester hours

**Textbook**

*Elementary Linear Algebra: Applications Version, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition*  
by Howard Anton and Chris Rorres, Wiley 2014

Note: Print a copy of this syllabus for easy reference about due dates, grading scale, and helpful links for student support. The syllabus is considered to be the ruling document, but dates could change for various reasons. If changes are made, you will be notified.

<b>Start Date of Term</b>	Tuesday, January 19
<b>Last Date to Add</b>	Tuesday, January 26
Last Day to Drop without paying full tuition	Tuesday, January 26
<b>Wellness Day</b>	<b>Tuesday, March 16</b>
<b>Last Date to Withdraw/Last Day of Classes</b>	Friday, April 23
<b>Last Day to Opt for Pass/Fail Grading</b>	<b>Friday, April 23</b>
<b>Midterm Exams (Dates are Tentative)</b>	<b>Test 1: Near Tuesday, February 23</b>
<b>(Exams are during scheduled class times)</b>	<b>Test 2: Near Thursday, March 25</b>
	<b>Test 3: Near Tuesday, April 20</b>
<b>Final Exam:</b>	<b>Wednesday, April 20, 1:30-4PM</b>
<b>Grades Available Online</b>	<b>Wednesday, May 5</b>

## Course Content

- Linear Equations: Gaussian Elimination
- Matrices: Matrix Operations and Properties; Invertible Matrices and Inverses
- Determinants: Cofactor Expansion; Row Reduction; Cramer's Rule
- Euclidean Vector Spaces: Vectors, Norm, Dot Product and Distance; Orthogonality
- Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors
- Diagonalization: Symmetric Matrices; Orthogonal Diagonalization; Selected Additional Topics

## Course Policies

- Please make sure that you are able to receive e-mail through your Blazer-ID account. Your instructor will be communicating some important information this way as well as through Canvas.
- If you wish to request a disability accommodation, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) at [dss@uab.edu](mailto:dss@uab.edu).
- If a test is missed due to a serious verifiable circumstance or official university business, the midterm can be retaken at a later point in time. The matter will be resolved on a case by case basis. In any case, the affected student must present a justified, written, and signed confirmation from a third party (e.g. a medical doctor in case of illness).
- If you are contacted by the Early Alert Program, you should consider taking advantage of the services it offers.

## Assessment Procedures

Student Achievement will be assessed in the following ways:

- **Homework Assignments and Quizzes.** These contribute a total of 30% to the course average.
- **Midterm exam.** There will be three midterm exams. Each midterm exam contributes 14% to the course average.
- **Final exam.** The final exam contributes 28% to the course average.

Your final grade is determined according to the following table:

• Course performance	• 88-100	• 75-87	• 62-74	• 50-61	• Below 50
• Final Grade	• A	• B	• C	• D	• F

## Class Management via Canvas

- Overviews, To-Do lists and Homework assignments will be posted on canvas (<http://www.uab.edu/online/canvas>). Class announcements, assignments, grades, etc. will also be posted there. Students should log into Canvas at least once a day.
- Tests, quizzes, and some homework assignments will be submitted on Canvas.

## UAB Policies and Resources:

### Add/Drop and Course Withdrawal

- Drop/Add: Deadlines for adding, dropping, or withdrawing from a course and for paying tuition are published in the [Academic Calendar](#) available online. Review the [Institutional Refund Policy](#) for information on refunds for dropped courses.
- Withdrawal: To avoid academic penalty, a student must withdraw from a course by the withdrawal deadline shown in the academic calendar and receive a grade of W (withdrawn). Failure to attend class does not constitute a formal drop or withdrawal.

### UAB United: Safe Entry to Campus

- Please go to the [UAB United website](#) for guidance and resources related to our safe entry to campus in Spring, 2021, including information on:
  - [Testing](#)
  - [Academic resources](#) and in-depth information
  - [Student Affairs resources](#) to support all students (housing, dining, extracurricular activities, parking, etc.)
  - [Health and safety resources and recommendations](#) for on and off-campus
  - Information for [graduate students](#), [School of Medicine students](#), [Post-Docs](#) and [International Students](#)

All students should use the [Student COVID-19 Entry Checklist](#) to see what they have to do in order to enter the campus safely. **Non-compliance with the required items will result in students not being able to remain on campus or participate in any in-person classes, meetings, jobs, extracurricular activities, and events.**

### Misconduct:

The University of Alabama at Birmingham expects all members of its academic community to function according to the highest ethical and professional standards. Students, faculty, and the administration of the institution must be involved to ensure this quality of academic conduct. Review the Academic Honor Code and Non-Academic Student Code of Conduct linked below.

- [Academic Honor Code](#)

- [Non-Academic Student Code of Conduct](#)

### **DSS Accessibility Statement:**

**Accessible Learning:** UAB is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students. If you are a student with a disability that qualifies under Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and you require accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services for information on accommodations, registration and procedures. Requests for reasonable accommodations involve an interactive process and consist of a collaborative effort among the student, DSS, faculty and staff. If you are registered with Disability Support Services, please contact DSS to discuss accommodations that may be necessary in this course. If you have a disability but have not contacted Disability Support Services, please call (205) 934-4205, visit [their website](#), or their office located in Hill Student Center Suite 409.

**COVID-19 Adjustments for Students: Attendance <will/will not> be a part of your grade in this course. [Where attendance is part of the grade: All absences for COVID-19-related illnesses will be excused.] Students concerned about their attendance as a result of COVID-19 should register with Disability Support Services.**

**UAB Disability Support Services (DSS) has established a process for UAB students to request temporary adjustments based on the impact of COVID-19. The process is similar to the traditional DSS registration procedures for accommodations based on disability. However, these requests will be referred to as "COVID-19 Related Temporary Adjustments". On the DSS website, there is a section (next to the traditional DSS application process) titled "Request COVID-19 Temporary Adjustments" where students can read the process and click to complete an application.**

**On the application, the student must complete an attestation and identify which of the following category(s) applies to their situation. Students will be allowed to submit documentation to support their requests.**

- I am 65 or older
- My medical provider has determined that I am an individual who is considered high risk according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- I care for or reside with an individual who has been determined to be high risk according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- I have tested positive for COVID-19
- I am requesting adjustments for another reason

**Any questions regarding this process should be referred directly to [dss@uab.edu](mailto:dss@uab.edu). For qualifying students, DSS staff will create a Notification of Temporary Adjustment Letter (PDF format) which will be provided to students. Students will share this letter, as needed, with instructors to request adjustments.**

### **Title IX Statement:**

The University of Alabama at Birmingham is committed to providing an environment that is free from sexual misconduct, which includes gender-based assault, harassment, exploitation, dating and domestic violence, stalking, as well as discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression. If you have experienced any of the aforementioned conduct we encourage you to report the incident. UAB

provides several avenues for reporting. For more information about Title IX, policy, reporting, protections, resources and supports, please visit [UAB Title IX webpage](#) for UAB's Title IX, UAB's Equal Opportunity, Anti-Harassment, Duty to Report, and Non-Retaliation policies.

### **Mandatory Masks and Social Distancing Requirements:**

In accordance with CDC guidelines and for the health and wellbeing of all faculty, staff and students. Students, faculty and staff are required to wear cloth face coverings or face masks at all times and maintain social distancing (6 feet between individuals in traditional classrooms, or, in instructional laboratories and similar settings) while on the UAB campus. Instructors have the right to ask those who are not complying with these requirements to leave class in the interest of everyone's health and safety. In the event that a student refuses to comply with these requirements, the instructor has the right to cancel class.

Additionally, following other simple practices will promote good health in and out of the classroom, such as frequent and thorough hand washing, wiping down desks and seats with disinfectant wipes whenever possible, not sharing personal items such as pens and cell phones, and avoiding crowded areas and other enclosed spaces.

The UAB Blazer community views the adoption of these mandatory guidelines as a mark of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff. Please visit the [UAB United website](#) for further information.

Food may not be consumed during class times in classrooms, but bottled water is permissible.

### **GuideSafe Event Passport Class Requirement**

Faculty are required to verify all students who are present for in-person instruction have a current Event Passport.

The COVID-19 pandemic is an extraordinary situation requiring significant measures to create a safe educational community. UAB is using GuideSafe™ Event Passport to facilitate access to classrooms, meetings, events, or facilities having ten or more people. Attendees, including faculty, staff, and students, will complete [UAB Healthcheck](#), a COVID-19 assessment tool, prior to entering their event. An Event Passport is issued based factors from your daily risk level as assigned by the UAB Healthcheck. After you have completed Healthcheck, press the "Passport" button to get your passport. This passport is good for 24 hours. Remember your passport number to access your passport later in the day. Each user is assigned a unique passport number indicating their status for the upcoming event that will show a "Clear" (Green) screen or "Not Clear" (Red) screen. After the 24-hour passport has expired, you will need to complete Healthcheck again. Each passport will have a time and date to ensure validity. Learn more at [UAB GuideSafe Event Passport](#).

### **Course Netiquette:**

There are course expectations concerning etiquette on how we should treat each other online. It is very important that we consider the following values during online discussions and email.

- **Respect:** Each student's opinion is valued as an opinion. When responding to a person during the online discussions, be sure to state an opposing opinion in a diplomatic way. Do not insult the person or their idea. Do not use negative or inappropriate language.
- **Confidentiality:** When discussing topics be sure to be discreet on how you discuss children, teachers, and colleagues. Do not use names of people or names of facilities.

- Format: When posting use proper grammar, spelling, and complete sentences. Avoid using ALL CAPITALS. This signifies that you are yelling. Avoid using shortcuts/text abbreviations such as 'cu l8r' for 'See you later.'
- Relevance: Think before you type. Keep posts relevant to the discussion board topic.