

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**  
**ALGEBRA I: LINEAR**  
**MA 434/534-OX**  
**SUMMER 2021**

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS  
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

**Course Instructor:** Professor Nikita Selinger  
**Office:** UH 4016  
**Phone#:** (205) 934-2154  
**E-mail:** selinger@uab.edu  
**Office Hours:** By appointment

---

**Meeting times:** TR 15:00 AM – 17:00 PM  
**Meeting location:** HHB 121  
**Prerequisite:** Grade of C or better in Calculus II or equivalent  
**Credits:** 4 semester hours  
**Textbook:** Elementary Linear Algebra by Howard Anton, 11 th Edition, Wiley, 2013 Sections Topics to be covered: Sections 1.1-1.8; 2.1-2.3; Chapter 3 (mostly just a review of MA 126 topics); 4.1-4.10; 6.1-6.2; 7.1-7.3; 8.1-8.3; & Appendix A; as time permits.

---

**Important dates:**

**First day of class:** June 8, 2020,  
**Tentative test dates:**  
    **Test I:** near Tuesday, June 29, 2020;  
    **Test II:** near Tuesday, July 20, 2020.  
**Final exam:** Thursday, August 12, 4:15 PM – 6:45 PM

---

**Course policies:**

- Please make sure that you are able to receive e-mail through your Blazer-ID account. Official course announcements may be sent to that address.
- If your are contacted by the Early Alert Program, you should consider taking advantage of the services it offers. Various services to assist you are also listed in the *Student Resources* section of the *Blazernet* web site.

- If you wish to request a disability accommodation please contact DSS at 934-4205 or at *dss@uab.edu*.
- The midterm test grade will be replaced by the final exam grade in an event of any missed test due to illness or any other serious verifiable circumstance or official university business. You must advise the instructor of such circumstances **before** the exam takes place. A missed final exam gets a score of zero.
- No books or notes or calculators will be allowed during any of the tests.

### Methods of teaching and learning:

- Class meetings of 120 minutes consisting of lectures and discussions of examples and homework problems. Time also includes in-class tests.
- Students are expected to undertake at least 10 hours of private study and homework per week.

### Assessment procedures:

- Student achievement will be assessed by the following measures:
  - **Classwork.** Homework problem discussions and class participation and attendance contribute 20% to the course average.
  - **Two tests** including short questions as well as problems requiring in depth understanding (including word-problems). Two tests contribute 20% each to the course average.
  - **A 150-minute comprehensive final examination.** The final contributes 40% to the course average.
- Your course performance is your course average (including the final exam score). This is a number between 0 and 100.
- 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        |

- In addition your grade may be raised by a strong performance on the final exam (normally at most one letter grade).

### Tips:

- Help will be available through the Mathematics Learning Lab through Zoom sessions with tutors as well as from the instructor.
- Technical support is available at <https://www.uab.edu/elearning/help>.
- By working steadily and regularly, you will increase your chances to succeed in this course.
- Remember, being a full-time student is a full-time job.