M 412.01: Partial Differential Equations

Emily F. Stone

University of Montana - Missoula, emily.stone@umontana.edu

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Course Description: In this course we will cover the analytic solution of linear partial differential equations (PDEs). Two famous PDEs will form the backbone of the course: the heat equation and the wave equation, in one and two spatial dimensions. Solution techniques include separation of variables, method of characteristics, and Fourier Transforms. We will also cover some of the theory of Fourier Series as they are used in the solution of linear PDEs, and an introduction to Sturm-Liouville theory.

Text: • Applied Partial Differential Equations

Prerequisite: Math 311

Important Dates:
   Feb. 4: Last day to add courses via Cyberbear
   Feb. 14: Last day to drop courses or change grade options via Cyberbear
   Feb. 17: President’s Day Holiday - no classes
   March 31 - April 4: Spring Break - no classes
   April 7: Last day to drop courses without dean’s signature
   May 9: Last Day for add/change or drop Petitions

Exam Dates: (tentative, will be confirmed in class)
   Feb. 24 (Monday): Exam 1
   March 26 (Wednesday): Exam 2
   May 15 (Thursday): Final Take Home Exam Due

Grading:
   Homework            20% of course grade
   Exams (2)           60% of course grade
   Final Exam          20% of course grade
Homework Assignments:
For this class homework is absolutely essential to the mastery of the material. Homework assignments will be made almost every week, and will be graded for completeness. Answers and some partial solutions will be made available.

Readings:
I will be working mainly from the text, but I will bring in supplemental material as needed. This will be in the form of hand-outs given in class, so if you need to miss a class, have someone pick up any hand-outs for you.

Exam Information:
There will be two mid-term exams, each with an in-class portion and a take-home portion. A take-home final will be given out the last day of class, and will be due on Thursday May 15th by 4 pm. The final exam will be cumulative with a slight emphasis on the material covered after the second mid-term. Make-ups for an exam will not be given unless you have a valid excuse and (if possible) you contact me prior to the exam.

Grading:
Grading will be done on the usual percentage scale, 90-100% A, 80-89 % B, etc.

Student Conduct:
All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. You can find it in the “A to Z Index” on the UM home page. All students must practice academic honesty. (That specifically means not copying homework solution sets, sharing information on exams, or plagiarizing material in written reports.) Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University.

For any student with a disability:
If you have a disability that has or might have an effect on your performance in this class, please let me know. I will do my best to accommodate you.

Final Note:
Announcements made in class are considered addenda to this syllabus. Midterm exam dates are tentative, make sure you stay informed as to the progress of the class.